

Minutes from October 19th Community Advisory Committee meeting

Present:

Facilitator:

Shelly Lucas

Sheriff's Office:

Sheriff Jason Myers
US Troy Clausen *captured minutes
Cmdr. Kevin Schultz
Dep. Heath Nelson
Mgmt. Analyst Sara Zavala

CAC Members:

Ken Hector
~~Todd Deaton~~
Shelley Joyce
Gary Rychard
Syliva Valentine Garcia
Jose Gonzalez
John Alamarez
Hugo Nicolas
Blake Dye
Vanessa Nordyke
Levi Herrera
Marya Kalugin
Cindy Schaeffer
Cari Fiske
Glen Rader

Meeting was called to order at 1900 hrs.

Introductions were conducted and Ms. Lucas led an icebreaker activity asking everyone to share about their high school graduation, hair style, music, and place of birth.

Guidelines and expectations:

The Sheriff and Ms. Lucas were able to talk about the reasons for the CAC and what our expectations were. The Sheriff explained that this was a process of getting our CAC members to be a reflection of the community areas they were from as well as an opportunity to CAC members to bring issues to the table that they feel are important to their community and what our Office should be focusing on.

During introductions CAC members gave quick overviews as to their reason for participating in this group and concerns which were important to them.

Sheriff's Office Background and Information:

US Clausen talked about our guiding principles and what they mean to the Sheriff's Office and our community. The guiding principles were developed by the entire Office and are reflective of our personnel. Handouts were provided over our Foundational Character Traits (with an emphasis on Optimism and Humility) as well as our Core Functions and Top Ten Objectives.

US Clausen explained that the Office of Sheriff is a constitutional office, elected by the people. We covered our Oregon Revised Statute mandated functions; Jail, Search and Rescue, Civil processes/service, Judicial Security, Enforcement services, and our co-managed Community Corrections.

We talked about the use of our Community Relations Unit (YouTube and web based services) as well as our thoughts on public funding (how the Sheriff views our Office as a business rather than just a political entity). We talked about how we are responsible for the funds entrusted to us and that we need to be good stewards of the things given to us.

Handouts were also given on our monthly reports for Enforcement, Institutions, P&P, and Operations. The handouts were for review.

US Clausen explained that our Office is prioritizing resources to focus on the following:

- 1.) Jail Population issues
- 2.) Jail/Community mental health issues (including MRDD)
- 3.) Community Re-Entry work for transitioning Offenders back into our Community.
- 4.) Community livability issues (neighborhood concerns/disputes/traffic)
- 5.) Aggressive Driving
- 6.) Economic downturn

Purpose of Advisory Committee:

Cmdr. Kevin Schultz covered the reasons for the formation of the CAC and our expectations. The By-laws for the CAC were handed out and covered, briefly. CAC members were asked to read these outside of the meeting as well.

Praise and kudos to Dep. Heath Nelson and his work on forming the CAC, helping to select CAC members, and his continued leadership to bring it to fruition.

It was very apparent listening to those in attendance that they had a strong desire to serve the community, their areas of concern (listed later), and that they were very satisfied with the direction of the Sheriff's Office at this time.

Cmdr. Schultz did a very good job of explaining that the CAC was formed not to work on Sheriff's Office policy and procedure issues (those can be handled internally) but to focus on those community livability issues that the committee as a whole felt were worthwhile to advise on or pursue.

Livability Issues-Roundtable Responses:

Ms. Lucas facilitated the conversation around what our CAC members felt were important to them. The list is as follows:

Teen alcoholism
Mental Health Issues
Patrol coverage-County wide
Domestic Violence issues/education/preventive measures
Cultural Sensitivity-Broken windows philosophy-lack of communication in Hispanic/minority community
Parent Education (2nd language) ie. children who speak English and may not share complete translations with parents.

MRDD population (education, criminal culpability, sex related issues, treatment)
Drug/alcohol prevention and education
Traffic Enforcement
Gang (graffiti/recruitment) issues
ID theft (what to do)

Question left to ponder? What is the priority or should there be several priorities? Where to go next?

NOTE FOR CAC MEMBERS:

The Sheriff's Office is already involved in several identified issues within the community and within the Office.

Mental Health Task Force (Enforcement/ Jail/ Community Corrections)
Domestic Violence Team (Enforcement and Community Corrections)
Child Abuse/Sex Abuse issues (Enforcement and Community Corrections)
Drug Court/ Mental Health Court
Community Response Unit (CRU)
Participating in NAACP and established relationships with minority leaders
Prisoner Re-Entry Work

Need for additional resources in all areas as well as these:

Drug and Alcohol outreach for youth
Adolescent issues
Gang Outreach
Traffic complaints/issues

Listserv:

Discussed the need for real time interaction with the CAC members outside of just meeting times. What is the easiest way to facilitate that contact and interaction. A listserv (compilation of emails) was discussed and the majority of the group felt that this would be a good way to communicate. This does not preclude the use of the telephone by any means. The decision was to go with an email group instead of listserv to address concerns of too many emails. Members can "reply all" or just to sender.

Ms. Lucas pointed out to the CAC members that an email to Sheriff's Office management may not be answered as quickly as the same day. With that said, follow through is very important to us and we will attempt to answer questions as quickly and thoroughly as possible.

Next meeting:

November 16th, 2010 @1900 hrs. (7:00 pm) Sheriff's Office Work Center, 3950 Aumsville Hwy SE.

Homework:

Read by-laws and come with questions!