

City of Troutdale
Public Safety Advisory Committee
September 20th, 2007 7:00 pm

ATTENDING: Chief David Nelson, Mike Goss /Chair, Laurie Aronstein, John Brown,
Jorgen Shaw, Joe Carlson
ABSENT: Julie Link, John Edwards, Joe Maddox, Jerry Stitzel
GUESTS: Sgt. Mike Shrake, Officer Rodney Wilkerson, City Administrator John
Anderson

I. Roll Call – The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

II. Minutes of July 19th, 2007

Jorgan noted they needed to correct the minutes to indicate Jorgan was present. Jorgan moved to approve the minutes as corrected and John seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

III. Public Comment – Officer Wilkerson was present to discuss an idea for rectifying problematic Sandy River Beach activity, which has risen with patrol declines in 2004-05. He explained a proposal to install pay for parking to provide a modest funding source for parks cleanup, or patrolling, and to hopefully deter criminal elements. It has worked successfully at state parks and at Dabney park. Officer Wilkerson noted that in checking registrations of park users this past summer - less than 2% were from Troutdale. Parks and facilities supervisor Clyde Keebaugh would like to see some of the funds go to the significant trash and cleanup the City of Troutdale provides (38 bags a day on peak days). The department has learned recently that the islands and waterways are also Troutdale responsibilities. Staffing is an officer safety issue when there is only one officer dealing with hundreds of people that frequent the site on a hot day. Most of the problem is on the east side of the river, which bypasses posted police presence, but impacts the beach nonetheless.

The Chief reported that in talking with Parks and Facilities Supervisor Clyde Keebaugh, the City's Citizen Advisory Committee would like to meet with the PSAC prior to bringing the proposal to the City Council for consideration. This meeting is tentatively scheduled during the PSAC's regular October meeting.

Joe moved that the committee support a parking fee at Glen Otto park, with the fee and details to be decided at a later time. Jorgan seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion passed.

IV. Chair Comments – Mike brought up the vacancies in committee membership and some members gave the Chief applications

V. Fire Service Issues / Concerns - John reported passage of SB 400, which may affect staffing levels at the Gresham Fire Department and thus impact the City through their contract for services with Gresham. More will be coming on this in the future.

VI. Medical Service Issues / Concerns – There were no items for this agenda topic.

VII. Police Issues / Concerns - The Chief noted that Julie and John will be moving out of the City and will be resigning from the committee. Other members with positions coming open were

asked to complete and submit a new application if they were interested in continuing on the committee. Applications can be downloaded at the City website or obtained at City Hall.

Citizen survey update

The Chief recapped that “Survey Monkey” is being used for the community survey instead of the prior mailed form, due to cost estimates obtained to provide the survey. Hard copies of the online survey were distributed for discussion. The value of the “perceptual” questions contained on the survey to the department as true crime indicators and for use in deployment of patrol resources was debated. The Chief counseled that not all crime gets actually reported, so perception does have value. Mike noted that the idea in the survey was to build on the prior questions, using prior response comparison to current responses for the perspective. Grammatical questions were taken down by the Chief including concern about the numbering system overall. Jorgan suggested doing the survey in Spanish, noting none of her Spanish speaking residents ever report crime and getting information from this sector of the community is important. Adding N/A answer responses to the questions following the “have you had contact question” made sense because those questions following this query related to the context and type of service received during the contact. Changes will be made and information returned to the committee at their next meeting.

Review updates of draft strategic plan

The Chief distributed a draft strategic plan which had not been fully reviewed as yet by the department management group. The Chief asked committee members to mark up their copies of the draft and drop off at the department, or e-mail back comments to him. He’d like to re-distribute a final draft at the next meeting.

VIII. Emergency Management Issues / Concerns – The Chief distributed the draft City of Troutdale Emergency Management plan for the group to review and asked them to e-mail or drop off their comments or questions prior to the next meeting.

IX. Closing Comments – Mike thanked Julie and John for their service to the committee, and noted that staying focused has allowed the committee to accomplish quite a bit in their monthly meetings.

The meeting was adjourned by Mike Goss at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting is a joint meeting with the Troutdale Citizen Advisory Committee scheduled for Thursday October 18th at 7:00 p.m.

Prepared by Melody Thompson on 9/28/2007 and approved by the PSAC October 19, 2007.