

City of Troutdale
Public Safety Advisory Committee
January 17th, 2008 7:00 pm

ATTENDING: Joe Carlson, Laurie Aronstein, Jon Brown, Jerry Stitzel, Mike Goss and Chief David Nelson. **ABSENT:** Jorgan Shaw

I. Roll Call – The joint meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee and the Citizens Advisory Committee convened at 7:05 p.m.

II. Minutes of October 18th, 2007 - Jerry moved to approve the minutes of November 29, 2007 and Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

III. Chair Comments – Mike noted Joe had chaired the last meeting and thanked him for the job well done.

IV. Public Comment – There were none.

V. Elect Chair and Co-chair – Jerry moved to elect Mike Goss Chair and Joe Carlson Vice-Chair. Laurie seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried.

VI. Goal setting for 2008 – In considering 2008 goals, Mike reviewed that 2007 Goals 1, 2, and 3 had been completed.

1. **Strategic Plan**
2. **Emergency Management Plan**
3. **Annual Awards Ceremony**
4. **Citizen Survey**

The Chief reported that Goal 4, the Citizen Survey, had been conducted online and closed January 14th. Fewer than 300 surveys were completed and suggestions to improve future responses included a more conducive date range, and sending more than one postcard reminder. The Chief noted that due to the cost savings of an online survey, it may be useful to do annual survey rather than one every 3 years. The Chief indicated it was to keep a pulse on citizen's satisfaction with the department and to obtain feedback about where citizens have concerns, which may ultimately translate to program changes.

The committee reviewed items on the goal list below that had been mentioned as areas of interest, to consider whether they should become goals for the upcoming year.

Build relationships with other city committees

Mike explained that this goal was meant to engage the other City committees to understand what they did, and perhaps motivate support of each other's goals. Joe suggested we have a specific idea of what we want to achieve by the relationship, such as whether they'll support a police facility. The Chief added that the Parks committee was also a viable place to have shared goals, given the problems with criminal activity there. Mike will meet with the Chair of each Troutdale committee for the purpose of seeing if there are mutual needs they could support together and then report back to the group each month about the meetings.

Traffic at Flying J – Traffic Problems on Frontage Road

The Chief reported that ODOT has plans to provide a local traffic alternative connecting to the overpass in the area so people wouldn't have to traverse Frontage Road. It will be expensive and probably not immediate, but ODOT will be working with property owners regarding easements and to obtain right of way to accomplish the project. By consensus, it was agreed that this is not a goal the committee could assume, but it continues as their area of interest. The Chief will keep the Committee informed of activity in this area as it occurs.

Three City Fire District

Chief Nelson reported cities of Wood Village and Fairview may be considering renewing the conversations of an independent district because the rates portion of the existing contract could reopen soon. This becomes even more important with the passage of SB 400 last year which opens up collective bargaining for safety reasons. Gresham Fire has been pushing for sometime to mandate 4 firefighters on a truck (currently they have 3). This would add substantial costs to providing the service during a contract re-opener. By consensus, it was agreed that this is not a goal the committee could assume, but it continues as their area of interest. The Chief will keep the Committee informed of activity in this area as it occurs.

Target Public Safety Programs that should be brought into the Troutdale PD

The Chief noted that based on Joe's comments, this item could be developed as a goal using trends brought forth from the Community Survey and action items from the Strategic Plan. The group agreed by consensus.

Open meeting nights for residents around the city

The Chief explained that past attempts to conduct regular community meetings had not been successful with very little participation. Joe suggested that the reason could be because there weren't burning pertinent issues although with the facility discussion coming up, that could change. By consensus, it was agreed that they would not establish this as a goal, but they could consider doing them when the need arises or – around a specific issue such as the police facility capital construction project.

New goals that could be adopted were discussed. The 2008 Goals adopted by the PSAC Committee, along with an identified committee member as point person for the goal are:

1. Exchange goals with each committee chair and then report back to the PSAC - Mike Goss.
2. Review survey and prepare possible public safety programs based on the results - Jerry Stitzel
3. Promote Neighborhood Watch with the goal of add 3 additional in the next year (including Troutdale Terrace) - Jon Brown & Jorgan Shaw.
4. Communicate the need for a new police station through the committee and reach ____ number of people - Joe Carlson
5. Produce a National Night Out event for the community - Laurie Aronstein
6. Participate in the 2008 Christmas Toy Drive - Jorgan Shaw & Jon Brown
7. Recruit people to fill PSAC vacancies – Committee members
8. Award Ceremony - Mike Goss

Each committee member should bring back a timeline and punch list for the accomplishment of assigned goals.

Mike mentioned a book, "Make it Stick" by Chip Heath that he recommended as good reading, with lessons that apply to what they are going to be doing.

VII. Fire Service Issues / Concerns - There were no fire service issues or concerns other than those discussed under the goals portion of the meeting.

VIII. Police Issues / Concerns - The Chief distributed draft questions to be used in a phone survey requested by the Council, to determine whether they will pursue a General Obligation Bond to fund a new facility. The survey will ask voters to consider the 4 million capital improvement bond, approximately 31-37 cents per thousand, and questions are framed to determine one of 3 options:

- 1) Citizens will not support a levy at all
- 2) Citizens will support a PD facility only
- 3) Citizens will support a combined PD/City Hall facility.

The Chief noted that if the survey indicates support and they proceed with the bond levy election process, he (as a City employee) can provide only factual information such as square footage, cost, and design, to name a few things. Once the architectural renditions are complete, we plan to have open houses to invite people to the current facility to see first hand the problems, and discuss what the future plans entail. The Chief planned to do factual piece on MCTV, local cable show, at the end of February. Joe suggested taking the presentation to the citizens in places such as apartment complexes, grocery stores, and outlet malls.

In their capacity as PSAC members, they cannot advocate for the facility either. But they can do so as citizens or as a part of a political action committee formed for the purpose.

IX. Emergency Management Issues / Concerns

There were no Emergency Management issues or concerns.

X. Closing Comments

The next PSAC meeting will be on February 28th instead of the 21st because the Chief will be out of town.

The Chief will notify the committee of the February City Council work session date where the facility will be discussed. There will be a City Council work session to discuss the burning ban on January 29th.

The committee asked to add two continuing agenda items for status reporting: the Helping Hands fund (how much money exists in the account, and how many assistance applications processed) and 2008 Committee Goals.

Joe moved to adjourn the meeting and Jerry seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday February 28th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Prepared by Melody Thompson on January 28, 2007 and approved by the PSAC February 28th, 2008.