

City of Troutdale
Public Safety Advisory Committee
January 8, 2009 7:00 pm

ATTENDING: Joe Carlson, Mike Goss, Jon Brown, Tina Tebbens, Jerry Stitzel, Jorgan Shaw Jason Gates, and Chief Scott Anderson. **GUEST:** J. Mueller

I. Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 7:00. Members introduced themselves, their background, and their interest in the committee.

II. Minutes of July 17, 2008

Jorgan moved to approve the minutes as presented and Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

III. Public Comment There were no comments.

IV. Chair Comments Mike commented that this is the only Troutdale committee he knows of that establishes goals, helps each other and actually achieves their goals. As they go into their third year, he described the group as people with a shared vision that get amazing things done.

Joe noted that in filling in for Mike during the annual committee process, the Reynolds High School position is still open and appears to be difficult to fill. He suggested a change to the vacancy from school to "at large" would enable the ready volunteers, such as the alternate, to participate actively. This would require a change by the City Council.

Jorgan reported that the Toy Drive was again a success but next year there will be challenges. Kay Bee is closing which necessitates finding a new toy drive location and a big thank you goes to Max, the manager at Kay Bee. They definitely need to have more police volunteers because this is a police department functioned event and people respond to them in that time of giving.

Mike suggested they discuss these under goals later in the agenda and the group agreed.

V. Financial and Use Report for Helping Hands fund Jerry explained that this fund was seeded with donations from the faith community and occasionally receives community donations. Jerry added that typically the funds purchase meal gift certificates (McDonald's), gas (\$10 purchased by an officer at the Shell on Halsey), and bus token (Tri-Met). Other requests are handled on an as needed basis with department supervisors granting extra approval. These include a Greyhound bus ticket, and a night's lodging at Motel 6. Jason suggested promoting the program in the interest of obtaining additional donations and he and Jorgan volunteered to work on that effort.

VI. Explanation of the Committee's purpose and progress to Chief Scott Anderson

Committee provided comments about the group's purpose:

1. To take a look at issues or items impacting the community from police or safety perspective and help the department plan for solutions to these concerns. An example is the call volume and staffing project where they helped the Chief present a different type of staffing model to the City Council.
2. To help get the word out about on what's going on in the department, what their needs are. The committee has assisted the department in obtaining police cars and adding police officers through their support. They advocated and supported the police facility construction levy recently on the ballot (November 2008).
3. The committee is here to serve the constituency and citizens of Troutdale, and to serve and support the Police department.

VII. Remarks from Chief Anderson

Committee members were mailed Chief Anderson's biography and two documents titled "Vision" and "Conduct and Performance Expectations" for review. A series of articles on Crime Analysis were also provided. The Chief explained that he researched the department prior to the interview and hiring process and was excited about the good work he observed. Since then, this impression has been reinforced.

The Chief explained that the department is competing with all of people with the resources available. Given that, he favors data that demonstrates the real need, with compelling arguments and justification for programs and staff. It's well known that random patrol equals random results. A Crime Analysis unit is extremely important because it tells supervisors where to put resources given where the problems are, and as a result, gives the officers focus on the street. He acknowledged we do have some data off of reports but no software program, and not one place where information is contained, analyzed and then given back to the command team to use for their daily plan. Data driven decisions will tell us where to place people, dispatch to be proactive and preventative – that's the goal and get away from reactive police service.

Chief Anderson has a colleague who is willing to provide training and assistance and even provide an information presentation. This is his highest priority so that with the number of officers we have, we get the most productivity from them and focus on the criminal activity.

Jerry made the motion to put on the next agenda, a presentation of Crime Analysis for consideration by the Committee. Joe seconded the motion, all were in favor and it passed unanimously.

The Chief reviewed that much has changed over the years and with it there is a departmental need for an administrative position, specifically a Lieutenant. The Chief believes it important to put sergeants on the street to supervise officers and they're saddled with so many administrative duties (RFP maintenance for vehicles, grants, complaints, accounting, recruitment and testing, etc.) that it's difficult for them to accomplish this. In addition, Melody has a full load of work such as Accreditation – and can't focus on managing records and performing as the Chief's assistant. This is another example of a command responsibility and in the scope of a Lieutenant's work.

The Chief acknowledged that although things are going well and there are not all of complaints, the reason to keep sergeants on the street is to keep things going well. He has seen in his career that a lack of supervision can invite trouble such as bad decisions, corruption, etc. He believes officers deserve the benefit of supervision available when they need it, which is a sergeant's first responsibility, and this keeps sergeants constantly torn between administrative and supervisory demands. Protect the officers and take care of them so they can take care of the public.

Jason added that it's important in making that kind of an appeal that it's understood a Lieutenant doesn't just supervise sergeants. In a department of Troutdale's size, this individual is an executive officer that goes a long way in enhancing community relations, interagency relations, meetings, etc. It's not a layer of government, but a layer of leadership with regard to span of control and very fundamental.

Joe added that the two items the Chief has discussed are related. From the standpoint of having analysis, sergeants will be helping to apply analysis in the field, and a Lieutenant could help run the process. Jason suggested the committee advocate for a Lieutenant position and the committee agreed by consensus to add it to their goals.

VIII. General Discussion of 2009 Goals The committee reviewed each of the 2008 goals and for those unachieved, debated whether each remained a goal for the group and if so, what due date might be assigned. The following goals were discussed and approved by the committee:

GOAL	ASSIGNED	DELIVERABLE / OUTCOME	DUE
1. Report PSAC Goals to Troutdale Mayor & City Council, & Dept. Mgrs.	Mike Goss Tina Tebbens	Provide a summary of the update	Aug. 8, 2009
2. Review Troutdale Police Dept. Survey Analysis – July 2008	Jerry Stitzel	Provide recommendations and suggestions – how to move forward with survey perceptions and information	Mar. 5, 2009
3. Promote Neighborhood Watch	Jorgan Shaw Jon Brown	Restructure Troutdale Terrace N.A. and begin discussions with 2 additional	June 2009
4. Coordinate the 2009 Troutdale area Christmas Toy Drive	Jorgan Shaw Jon Brown Tina Tebbens Jason Gates	Seek out additional retail toy outlet for toy drive, coordinate volunteers and department involvement – Provide toys for Event	Dec. 25, 2009

5. Propose Troutdale Municipal Code Change	Chief Anderson	Replace existing Reynolds High School employee member requirement with additional "member at large" designation (to total 4 at large members)	May 7, 2009
6. Troutdale Police Dept. Recognition & Awards Ceremony	Mike Goss Chief Anderson Tina Tebbens Jason Gates	Assist with planning organization of Ceremony, tentative date June 3, 2009.	June 3, 2009 tentative
7. Present committee's recommendation to add a Lieutenant to Police Dept.	Chief Anderson Mike Goss Jason Gates	Make recommendation / presentation to the Troutdale Mayor and City Council	March 2009

The committee favored adding Crime Analysis support within the department as a goal, but agreed by consensus to wait until after the presentation at the February 5th meeting to discuss the possibility.

Mike talked about the possibility of having business sponsorship for the award ceremony which would be published in the program. He will also look into a plan for a foundation for the department where donations can be made for departmental expenditures.

Jerry moved to appoint Mike Chair of the Committee in the next year and Jorgan seconded the motion. Mike recommended Joe for Vice Chair of the committee and the agreed by consensus. All were in favor and the motion passed.

IX. Closing Comments

Mike adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday February 5th, 2009.

Prepared by Melody Thompson on January 29, 2009 and approved by the PSAC February 5th, 2009.