

City of Troutdale
Public Safety Advisory Committee
March 5, 2009 7:00 pm

ATTENDING: Joe Carlson, Mike Goss, Jon Brown, Tina Tebbens, Jason Gates, Jerry Stitzel and Chief Scott Anderson. **ABSENT:** Jorgan Shaw **GUESTS:** Eric Mueller (City Finance Director)

I. Roll Call The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and Chief Anderson went through the roll call of the committee.

II. Minutes of February 5, 2009 Tina moved to approve the minutes of February 5, 2009 and Jason seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

III. Public Comment Eric Mueller, City Finance Director indicated he was here to learn more about PSAC activities.

IV. Update on 2009 Goals Committee members updated their progress on the 2009 Goals, recorded in a separate document titled, PSAC 2009 Goals and attached to these minutes. Other comments made:

- Goal 2 – Observations from the informal survey revolve around improving communication generally. Getting out the positive messages about the department via newsletter or other (media doesn't fill this role) could help. We should define successes such as activities in the Gang unit and MCT (major crimes team). Officers on the street, crime analysis and a lieutenant all fit within the goal of community policing and will be advanced through improved communication.
- Goal 3 – Jason noted that crime mapping could have a significant effect in advancing creation of Neighborhood Watch when citizens see the visual impact of crime and activity in their areas. Once started, N.W. organizations aren't that hard to keep up – the work is in the organization and start up.
- Goal 5 – The Chief met with Reynolds School District and successfully generated interest in the school district slot on the committee and the Council is considering a Troutdale Municipal Code amendment to add a new "at large" position.
- Goal 6 – The idea of securing advertisement to pay for the program and establishing a non-profit foundation to fund the expenses around the event will be explored in next year's process. The "Friends of Troutdale" PAC might be an option, however Erich suggested they explore the legalities of what the PAC can do as it is limited. Tina found some preliminary info about community foundations and will e-mail this info to the committee members. The Chief noted that the Portland Police Bureau had a foundation, at one time which might be a resource.
- Goal 7 – Several reasons for making the "business case" for adding a Lieutenant position were discussed. Staff is researching how over time the department has added employees, programs and administrative tasks in the department and subsequently the addition of responsibilities upon sergeants. Adding crime analysis will be yet another administrative responsibility. During a recent bank robbery and pursuit incident, it was noted there wasn't a Troutdale sergeant on the street to manage the incident and response was due to training, days off, etc. This is an example of daily incidents where

the front line supervisor is not available to manage the liability and risk due to our supervisory gaps. In addition, mental health, court and corrections system budget cuts in the next year will make things tougher on the street. Even lack of staff in other city departments (such as Human Resources) has added recruitment and testing administrative work upon sergeants. Joe suggested using the history of the department's progression of programs and tasks to obtain a factual element to attach to the emotional argument for the need of a Lieutenant position and it was agreed this was important.

- Goal 9 – The Chief met with Reynolds School District Superintendent Dr. Fisher and they have committed to retaining High School SRO funding. Dr. Fisher also understood the department may need to amend the agreement and remove a Walt Morey SRO. The intent is to retain the DARE program however in the elementary schools. This frees up funding for Crime Analysis/Crime Prevention in the department.

Neighborhood Watch, victim call back program, graffiti removal, National night out and volunteers were all aspects of Crime Prevention. Jason stressed the importance of reporting low level crimes to community policing, crime mapping and crime analysis with the caveat, "there's no crime too small". The Chief suggested, and the committee agreed, that pursuit of volunteers will be a natural outcome of the Crime Analyst/Crime Prevention program. Without adding it as a goal, the committee wanted to note that volunteers might play an important role in advancing this goal.

V. Troutdale Police Department Facility Marketing Plan The committee discussed a PAC (Political Action Committee) and its ability to assist in actively marketing and promoting a police department facility needs. The Chief is working on a marketing plan within this effort.

VII. Troutdale Community Policing Defined Chief Anderson discussed a handout that defined the term and how it applies. It includes Dare, crime prevention, and many other programs and it's a mindset of the officers that asks, "How do we solve this problem?" Department members have read and endorsed the philosophy noting it applies to what we're trying to accomplish in Troutdale. Committee members read and endorsed the philosophy during the meeting. The Chief will use elements of this and other documents he's distributed (vision, performance and conduct expectations) to assist in communicating the department's goals.

VIII. Closing Comments Chief Anderson report his visit with businesses along Columbia River Highway to conduct the informal survey discussed in the last meeting about unlicensed solicitors. All of them said they had unlicensed solicitors and when contacted these solicitors were polite and if asked to leave, did so. Most businesses said they would hand out a card if provided with the ordinance "reminder". Some businesses said they had made purchases from the solicitors. All agreed they didn't feel threatened, and the Chief indicated businesses should have a sign, "no soliciting" in order for the ordinance to take effect. At this time, due to the response received, the Chief didn't believe any further action was necessary.

Erich Mueller noted that in looking at risk city wide, steps the City might take to mitigate risk and litigation such as training and supervision were factors. The Lieutenant position fit in with this risk management and would no doubt be involved in a future "risk committee" he hoped to form,

as risk management will fall under his domain.

Jon moved to adjourn the meeting and Jerry seconded the motion. All were in favor and Mike adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday April 2nd, 2009.

Prepared by Melody Thompson on March 20, 2009 and approved by the PSAC April 2, 2009.