



**Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

MEETING PLACE/DATE:

Lakewood Police Department, December 6, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

5:20 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Present: Alan Hart, Mark Piela, Karen Ferreira, James Hairston, Kamarie Wilson, Ken Witkoe, Ray Dotson, Tod Wolf, Teresa Imholt-King, and Martin Pullman

Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Excused: None

Staff: Lieutenant Chris Westby , Acting Chief John Unfred and Committee Staff Support Joanna LaVergne, Administrative Assistant

Youth Council Liaison: Violet Johnson, Kaitlyn Miller, Lincoln Estrada Perez, Ava Qualls, and Kimberly Estrada

Council Liaison: Trestin Lauricella

West Pierce Fire and Rescue Liaison: Assistant Fire Chief Michael Dobbs

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tod Wolf motioned to approve the minutes. All ayes; minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Charles Ames spoke about his new job as a reporter, and stated he would like to be connected with our PIO for news/information.

PUBLIC SPEAKER:

Lieutenant Chris Westby, Lakewood Police Department

Lieutenant Chris Westby gave a presentation on the speed cameras survey results. We are still waiting for the school zone and red-light camera effectiveness results and he will share those once we have them. Discussion ensued.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS:

Councilmember Trestin Lauricella discussed the Holiday Parade, tree lighting and 5K coming up over the next two weekends. Councilmember Lauricella also stated that the City Council is focusing on public safety with the State Legislators, specifically regarding vehicle pursuits and juvenile interaction during police contact. Discussion ensued.

FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:

Assistant Fire Chief Michael Dobbs gave a summary of their call volume, as well as some of their upcoming events, to include Pictures with Santa on Tuesday at 5:30 at Station 21.

POLICE COMMENTS:

Assistant Chief John Unfred informed PSAC members that he would be the liaison for the committee moving forward. Assistant Chief Unfred also stated that hiring to LPD was finally tapering off, as we have almost filled all of our staffing numbers, and everyone was pretty happy about that.

Assistant Chief John Unfred gave updates on the uptick in juvenile crimes, especially vehicle thefts and robberies, the upcoming holiday shopping retail theft emphasis and some Emergency Management concerns with the recent storms and flooding. Discussion ensued.

Alan Hart asked Joanna LaVergne what our final Fallen Officer Food Drive numbers were and she stated that EFN was still counting, but the last numbers she had been given were: 3,600 pounds of food and \$8,989.07. Donations will continue to come in throughout the month, so hopefully we can get a "final" total by next meeting; everyone expects those numbers to go up some more.

YOUTH COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Violet Johnson gave the youth council update, outlining what they had accomplished so far, as well as some of their upcoming goals, two of which were more community events geared for youth, as well as looking at finding safe spaces for youth. There are currently none, except for the YMCA. Councilmember Trestin Lauricella stated that the City Council has on their agenda plans to look at a multi-generational place for everyone, because they recognize the need is there. Discussion ensued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Board Comments:

Committee member Martin Pullman reiterated that the committee has been waiting for the new Neighborhood Connections Coordinator in order to begin working on the Neighborhood Association Roadmap. Chris Davis introduced himself as the Neighborhood Connections Coordinator, who had just started with the City roughly a month ago. His focus right now will be on starting conversations, attending interest meetings, and meeting with the City Council to hear where they would like to see him to focus his efforts. Discussion ensued. We will have Mr. Davis back again next year to see if there's something PSAC can do to help him with this project.

Committee member Martin Pullman asked about the Business Public Safety Survey and whether the Chief had any ideas regarding that topic. Councilmember Trestin Lauricella stated that the Citizen Survey had gone out last week. Assistant Chief John Unfred stated that the Chief had mentioned he was hoping for more actionable items and asked if the subcommittee had a draft of questions. The committee does; Vice Chair Karen Ferreira stated that they had been hoping for more direction from the City Council as well, in light of the Citizen Survey going out. Discussion ensued.

Committee Member Martin Pullman gave a recap of the Joint City Council meeting that happened back in October. His main take away was that they want PSAC to focus more on citizen involvement, like working with Mr. Davis, the Neighborhood Connections Coordinator and anything else the committee can think of, to involve the community in conversations with our Legislators.

Chair Kamarie Wilson opened the discussion to finalize the 2024 work plan. Items which had been sent to Joanna LaVergne were listed for everyone to look at, and vote on for removal or inclusion.

Item #1 was City Council requested and therefore would stay on the agenda; it was agreed that the committee would continue to ask for guidance from City Council and work with Mr. Davis.

Item #2 was also City Council requested, and would therefore stay on the work plan until they got further guidance from the City Council and the Chief.

Item #3 Truck and Tractor Day; the Committee voted to participate in this event in 2024.

Item #4 More community Involvement with Legislature was requested by City Council and was voted on; it was agreed to keep this on the agenda as a brainstorming activity for the members.

Item #5 was brought by Vice Chair Karen Ferreira, and she suggested PSAC be a part of reviewing the City's Emergency Management plans for comments and input. Assistant Chief John Unfred stated that public outreach was actually required by a couple of our grants, so this was definitely something that could happen. Assistant Chief Unfred also stated that the City was in the process of transitioning to being a part of the West Pierce Coalition which meant that only one plan would be created, moving forward. Discussion ensued. Vice Chair Ferreira motioned to put this on the work plan; all ayes. We will likely have to move this up to April but that will depend on when the plan is completed. Assistant Chief Unfred will keep us informed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board Comments:

February 7, 2024 at 5:15 p.m. Neighborhood Association Revitalization and more discussion on Truck and Tractor Day as needed.

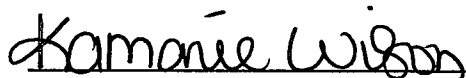
REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF:

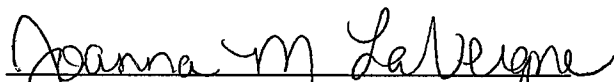
Board Comments:

Members discussed their Neighborhood Associations, as applicable.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mark Peila motioned to adjourn the meeting; all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.


Kamarie Wilson, Chair


Joanna LaVergne, Staff Person/Minutes