

# Public Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

October 23, 2014

Present:

Mary Weaver, Chair – Hector Campbell Neighborhood Association

Linda Hedges – Secretary and Member At Large

Don Wiley – Linwood Neighborhood Association

Pepi Anderson – Lewelling Neighborhood Association

Chris Ortolano – Member at Large

Ray Bryan – Vice Chair and rep of Historic Milwaukie Neighborhood Association

Megan Elston-Power – Island Station Neighborhood Association;

Sue Richardson – Lake Road Neighborhood Association

Battalion Chief John Oliver, CFD#1

Chief Steve Bartol – Milwaukie PD

Apologies: Angelene Falconer – Member at Large

---

The meeting was called to order at 6:18 p.m. by Chair Weaver.

## **Clackamas Fire District #1**

- Battalion Chief Oliver reported that October is Fire Prevention month; open houses will be held at fire stations. Information is posted on the Clackamasfire.com website.
- CFD#1 will again operate Operation Santa this year. Details are available on the CFD website. He said it would be very much appreciated if neighborhood associations could collect food donations all at one site for their pick up.
- BC Oliver was asked whether the young boy who reported the fatal fire at 38<sup>th</sup> and Adams would be recognized by the Fire District. Oliver said he was unaware of those details but would follow up since the Fire District does recognize those who serve the community well.
- Oliver was asked if there is something PSAC could do to help with awareness that clutter and hoarding makes it very difficult for firefighters to fight fires and rescue victims. It was discussed that perhaps we could put out a flyer about the subject. He mentioned that some communities have a Rebuilt It program that partners with Home Depot and other corporations to assist families who have lost their homes through disasters.
- BC Oliver reminded PSAC that the fire district provides smoke alarms free to those who can't afford them and installs them for those unable to do so themselves. Call local fire station for more information.
- He said there is a collection at fire stations for warm socks and gloves for community members who need them. There is a challenge between Boring stations and No. Clackamas fire stations to collect the most.
- He asked that we make sure to keep an eye on weather warnings; stormy weather is expected in the next few days. Storm drains should be kept clear of leaves.

## **Tri-Met Safety and Security Presentation**

- Representatives from Tri-Met's Security division outlined the transportation system's capabilities and plans for the Orange Line. Director of Light Rail Security Harry Saporta

said he committed to adding 4 new officers for the Orange Line. Most officers used by Tri-Met are borrowed from local police agencies who serve for 3 or 4 years while their agencies are paid for their position. Commander Modica said that they currently have 49 deployable officers.

- Commander Kevin Modica and Director Saporta presented information on how the transportation system's crime rate has dropped about 25% in the past 3 years and the overall crime rate is quite low. transit-police-strategies-key-partnerships-and-security-tools-increasing-safety-on-trimet-system
- Coral Agnew is in charge of public safety education relating to Light Rail. Their plan is to provide curriculum materials to all the schools within a half mile of the light rail line using materials specifically designed for the Orange Line. These materials, available in English, Spanish and perhaps Russian, will be available on Tri-Met's website. They have started meeting with school district staff. In early 2015 the Quiet Zone will be established in the Light Rail zone. Bus and Train operators will be trained during March to June. Mid-August simulated service will begin and the opening of the line is scheduled for Sept. 12 2015.
- A question was asked about how they investigate an accident on the Light Rail. ODOT becomes involved through their Rail Safety Division. Prevention of accidents becomes a matter of public education and preventive measures.
- Chris Ortolano asked what data is available to support the "crime train" theory that many Milwaukie residents fear. Saporta explained that Milwaukie is unlike other lines that have a large mall or large apartment complexes that would attract criminal behavior. We do not have a target rich environment. Others commented that there is a responsibility on the part of riders of public transportation and elsewhere to guard their property and persons and be aware of their surroundings rather than texting or other activities that take their mind off personal security.

### **Milwaukie Police Department**

Chief Bartol reported on the domestic violence event that led to a suspect being tracked through the west end of Campbell neighborhood. He was asked about the Code Red message and explained how that works. He explained how the rapid evolution of an event like this puts public notification, other than immediate life/safety information like is sent out through the reverse 911 system (Code Red), on a lower priority. He explained that the police department has to balance the need for the public to have instant information with performing those duties necessary to handle the emergency. General information about the incident is sent out with use of social media and press releases as the situation stabilizes.

The Chief reported that there was an on-going homicide investigation in Island Station, it is not a stranger-to-strange situation.

### **Sub-Committee Reports**

- Safety Education
  - a. Linda distributed several File of Life magnets to each NDA rep for distribution to neighbors who are medically fragile. The Fire District is low on the number that they have available right now.
  - b. The Beacon program funding has been included in the City's Supplemental budget. Linda explained the purpose of the Beacon program is to use volunteers to provide communication between the neighborhoods and the City's EOC if we have an earthquake that knocks out normal communications with cell towers, electricity.

Locations are still being identified. Island Station and Campbell both have contributed resources to the Beacon for the sites in their neighborhoods.

**Action: Linda to email inventory of Beacon supplies to PSAC reps.**

- Safe Routes to School  
Angelene Falconer was not available to report.
- Monroe Greenway Project  
Chris Ortolano reported that the Committee has a meeting coming up next week and an Open House will be held December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The consultant will put out a memo on needs and opportunities which Ortolano will email to PSAC reps. **Action: Ortolano**  
The Fire District's representative to the Greenway Committee is Mike Bouman.

#### **NDA Issues:**

Mary Weaver had sent out copies of the current departmental webpages, and PSAC's, which are out of date and need some rewriting. Sue Richardson asked for a specific section to be rewritten to reflect PSAC's actual community efforts. The Chief explained that there has not been staffing available in the department since Jill Martin left to maintain the webpages either for the department or for PSAC. Other efforts take priority. Officer Elkins will be getting some training on the use of social media for departmental news and information output. **Action: Re-examination of web page at December meeting**

- Chris Ortolano proposed that PSAC should appoint someone from the group to be a public contact. He said he would like to have a newsletter so all people from all over the community could be informed. The Chief offered the space in the Chief's Corner if we have specific information to offer.
- Other items on the agenda for NDA discussion were not discussed.

The meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Draft minutes pending approval at December 4, 2014 meeting.  
Submitted by Linda M. Hedges, Secretary