

MINUTES
SUNSET HILLS POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

January 16, 2018

6:15 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ald. Steve Bersche, Chairman, Randy Epperson, Harry Schillinger, Bob Althoff, Kerry Collins, Chief Steve Dodge
Guest; Sgt. Robbie Hagen

MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017 Police Advisory Board meeting, as distributed, was made by Mr. Schillinger and seconded by Mr. Althoff. The motion passed unanimously.

SPEAKER --- SGT ROBBIE HAGEN, C.O.R.E Officer/Public Information Officer

Sgt. Robbie Hagen presented details regarding her community engagement efforts.

Sgt. Hagen said the KEZK/KMOX Bikes for Tykes event was a big success and KEZK and Toys R Us expressed an interest in holding the event again in 2018.

There was a discussion regarding communication with the public by the Police Department both regarding the use of the Department's Social Media sites and other currently available social media platforms utilized by the public. Mr. Epperson asked if it would benefit the Police Department to be engaged in platforms such as NextDoor. It was determined that our current modes of communication, which include Facebook, Twitter, Nixle, the Horizon Newsletter and email communication with Neighborhood Watch groups, were the preferred methods.

Sgt. Hagen informed the members that she was working on public education forums regarding a variety of topics and was looking for their input for future topics. Mr. Epperson suggested providing more information regarding various Municipal Ordinances of interest to the community. Sgt. Hagen said there were a couple of Horizon articles of that nature in 2017 and she would expand that in 2018.

Sgt. Hagen said an American Red Cross First Aid/CPR/AED Review Course has been prepared for all of the Police Officers who need to be recertified in 2018. The course has been submitted to the MO Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission for qualification as Continuing Law Enforcement Certification (CLEE) hours. In addition, the course can be used to recertify all of the other City employees who were initially trained in 2016.

Sgt. Hagen said preparations are in process to hold another Cops and Bobbers Event this year.

Chief Dodge said Part 1 crimes were up slightly in 2017 from 2016, but the number of miles patrolled was up 20,000 miles and the number of traffic stops and traffic tickets issued were also up over 2016. Chief Dodge emphasized that the increase in traffic stops and tickets issued was not due to any requirement for officers to do so, but due to proactive patrol efforts on the part of the officers.

Chief Dodge said he is creating a Special Investigation Team within the department, members of which will receive specialized training. The team will investigate crimes and criminal activity that members of the Patrol Division cannot effectively perform due to the demands of the Patrol Division's responsibilities.

Chief Dodge said he is considering changing the design of the patrol cars to the traditional black and white design from the current all white design. Mr. Bersche and Mr. Althoff asked for clarification and Chief Dodge confirmed that the front and back of the patrol cars would be black and the doors would remain white with additional identifying markings on the cars. Mr. Epperson said he would like the design to maintain a professional appearance and Chief Dodge said it would.

Mr. Althoff asked about the department's use of the sales tax proceeds from Proposition P (Prop. P), approved by voters. Chief Dodge said the department is purchasing new coats, with "SHPD" in reflective letters on the back, to enhance officer visibility when working incidents on the roadways. Chief Dodge added that the Prop. P proceeds have already been used to maintain a competitive pay scale for the Police Department, one of his priorities, and use of the remainder of the proceeds will be determined by how much the City actually receives.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Althoff and seconded by Mr. Bersche. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sgt. Robbie Hagen