
NOTES OF THE 08/27/13 POLICE CHIEF'S ROUNDTABLE MEETING

Present: T. Franciskovich; K. Humphrey; F. Kassak; J. Mamo-Beckius; M. Parker; T. O'Leary; C. Pearce; P. Ready; Chief S. Gesell; Captains K. Storton and C. Staley; Neighborhood Outreach Manager C. Wallace; City Manager Lichtig

Absent: C. Dudley; R. Cader

Guests: City Manager K. Lichtig; CAT Officers J. Fellows and J. Behrens; P.O.A. Representative Officer R. Griffith; Communications Manager K. Rosenblum

Note Taker: Sue Sanders

Meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. and was facilitated by Thom O'Leary

NEW BUSINESS

- P.O.A. Presentation by Officer Griffith:
 - Explained the P.O.A.'s establishment of a new Scholarship Fund for children's extra-curricular activities; supporting the children through community outreach.
 - Discussed the upcoming fund-raising event on October 5th which is a Poker Tournament to be held at Green Gate Ranch (\$100 buy-in, \$40 dinner fee, raffle tickets, game, etc.) Distributed copies of Poker Tournament flyer.
 - Also discussed the recent funding of SAT exams by the scholarship fund for a student in need.

- Budget Presentation by City Manager Katie Lichtig:
 - Discussed the City's balanced budget and the Major City goals.
 - Explained Measure Y, which provides \$6.5 million a year. If this Measure were not to pass, if it were not to pass what would the picture look like for trade-offs.
 - Discussed Ryan Mason's reinstatement by the Fire Chief. Previously, the Firefighter's Bill of Rights prevented discussion of these topics, but now we have a negotiated waiver. It appears that the tensions of the team have dissipated even though there are disagreements over decision. One critical issue was that the Fire Fighter Code of Conduct was not in place when Ryan made his choices. Ryan was a paramedic will still need to recertify with County and EMS. Ryan was prepared to go to any legal lengths to be reinstated.

- Police Communications Presentation by Comm. & Records Manager Rosenblum:
 - Provided an overview of the conversations by Dispatch with Citizens, and illustrating the dynamics of a daily activity in Dispatch and expectations of citizens.
 - Minimum of 2 Dispatchers on duty each shift with a Supervisor.
 - Dispatchers are all certified for Medical Dispatching; a baby was delivered through a call with a Dispatcher last week.
 - Dispatch has 10 phone trunks for receiving calls. Business lines also go to same Dispatchers but they must always break away from a call when a 911 call is received. Calls are prioritized.
 - Last year, there were 8,500 reports / 100,000 phone calls with 35,000 Police and Fire units dispatched to respond to calls.
 - Explained the issue of wired phone calls versus wireless/cellular 911 calls.
 - Provided a summary of the activity that occurred in Dispatch during the recent power outage, followed by a plane crash, a fire and system upgrade (all within a 24 hour period).

- Some of the above information is available on the website. There was a suggestion by the group that this information is valuable education for the community and should be shared as much as possible.
- Community Action Team Presentation by Officers Fellows and Behrens:
 - This team is new and has just completed 11 weeks on duty.
 - On a daily basis, work with the Downtown community. Pulling together all organizations (SLO County Mental Health, Probation, Rangers, other agencies, etc.) to assist with finding solutions in services or enforcement for transients and homeless issues.
 - Some of these issues include intoxication, medical issues, drugs and alcohol, mental health issues, and biohazards. 24 tons of trash has been removed from the creeks and open spaces.
 - Discussed the impact these subcultures have on younger kids that associate with them.
 - Explained that SLO is the destination point to transients from all over the U.S. Cell phones get this message out. Hundreds of dollars are being made on the streets by individuals.
 - Discussed the Jessica Patterson "Jersey" success story.
 - Focus areas were discussed. One of particular concern is the green belt by the railroad tracks behind French Hospital and discussed possible solutions.
 - At this time, it is difficult to put metrics to the success of the CAT efforts.
- New Roundtable Member Consideration:
 - Chief Gesell explained that there are 5 open positions on the Roundtable to be filled.
 - The names of all interested persons will be sent out via email.
 - Each Roundtable member is requested to respond to Thom O'Leary with one or two candidates that best fill the remaining spots.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

*The next meeting will be held November 21st and will be facilitated by Thom O'Leary, Chairman.
Meeting will begin at noon.*