
NOTES OF THE 05/23/13 POLICE CHIEF'S ROUNDTABLE MEETING

Present: R. Cader; C. Dudley; 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; Lieutenant J. Bledsoe; Neighborhood Outreach Manager, C. Wallace

Absent: None

Note Taker: Sue Sanders

Meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. and was facilitated by Chief Gesell

- Chief Gesell gave introduction and welcomed all members.
- Chief Gesell discussed the Police Department staff functions and provided an organizational chart.
- Members introduced themselves.

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Election of Chairperson: Thom O'Leary
- Appointment of Vice Chairperson: Mary Parker
- Chairman O'Leary called for a vote on acceptance of proposed Chief's Roundtable Policy draft. Policy was adopted by all members without change.
- Future meetings dates were discussed and determined to be quarterly on the 4th Thursday of the month: August 22nd; November 28th; February 28th; and May 23rd.

CURRENT INITIATIVES

- Community Action Team (CAT) – Capt. Staley explained the function of the CAT Team and that two officers have been selected (Officers Behrens and Fellows). Deployment to begin in two weeks. Officers will be throughout city with some focus on Downtown. Downtown Association is working with Police Department to create a "Directed Giving" program. KSBY will be doing focus features on homeless issues over the next few weeks. Discussed Directed Giving program components. Education and getting the word out is key element—including posters, presentations at Cal Poly WOW week, web presence, QR codes for electronic web direction, giving stations for debit/credit, etc.
- Grant Application – Capt. Storton explained that funding has been applied for in a \$240,000 grant; if granted will begin in new fiscal year (October 1st).
- Homeless Court – Capt. Staley discussed the chronic offenders program and need for changing our current environment. One offender had 160 citations in a single year which perpetuates an environment of "no consequences". Sheriff and courts are supportive of the program. Suggestion was made to change the name of the program to "Multiple Infraction" or something similar. **This topic will be placed on the next meeting agenda for further discussion.**
- Volunteer Program – C. Wallace explained the Volunteer Program and the various opportunities for volunteers. Currently setting up education about what is available.
- Bike Registration Program – Capt. Storton discussed the new Bike Registration Program. Assist us to get stolen or lost bikes back to rightful owners. Able to register online or in person at PD. Data will be joint link with Cal Poly for students.
- Safety Enhancement Zone – Capt. Staley discussed proposed Safety Enhancement Zone program. Going to Council on July 2nd. If approved will be part of our Municipal Code. Chief Gesell thanked Keith Humphrey for paradigm shift at Cal Poly. Keith explained this new program will help students focus on academics and

assists with their new student code of conduct. He explained that Cal Poly will be hiring a parallel position like Christine Wallace's.

- Armored Vehicle – Capt. Staley discussed the new “refurbished” Bearcat vehicle which can be used by the Regional SWAT team (7 agencies) anywhere in the county. Approved by Council – purchased with Federal funds. Critical piece of equipment. Belongs to the City of SLO.
- Attrition/Hiring – Chief Gesell explained recruitment activities – there will be 9 hires in the next 12 months; only been 6 hires were made in the last 18 months. We have also applied for a grant for a nighttime DUI Officer (3 years).
- Neighborhood Map Program – Capt. Staley explained this program is designed to place specific officers in specific neighborhood areas creating a direct link for communication and increasing connectivity. Does not replace 911.

Q & A DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Rashdi Cader discussed the possibility of expanding the Coffee-with-a-Cop program to the SLO area. Discussion of the benefits of this kind of a program such as increased comfort level and issues coming to light from chatting with officers. Program creates an opportunity for citizens to engage with officers in a low key manner. Chief Gesell was familiar with the program and is receptive to considering implementation locally.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. followed by group and individual photos of members

*The next meeting will be held August 22nd and will be facilitated by Thom O'Leary, Chairman.
Meeting will begin at noon.*