

MINUTES

Pullman Police Advisory Committee

May 10, 2010

5:30pm at City Hall

The regular meeting of the Pullman Police Advisory Committee was held at 5:30pm on Monday, May 10th, 2010, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 325 SE Paradise Street, Pullman, Washington, with Committee Co-Chair Greg Wilson presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Greg Wilson	Co-Chair & Pioneer Hill Alternate
	KNona Liddell	College Hill Alternate
	Marcus Crossler	Military Hill Representative
	Phyllis Stallcop	Sunnyside Hill Representative
	Mike Lowery	Business Community Representative
	Kim Barrett	Multicultural Representative
	Riley Myklebust	ASWSU Representative
	Dan Hornfelt	Pullman School District Representative
	Bill Hawbaker	Pullman High School Parent Representative
Absent:	Arlene Parkay	Chair & WSU Staff & Faculty Representative
	Zach Hays	WSU Staff & Faculty Alternate
	Barbara Hammond	College Hill Representative
	Matt Nobles	Military Hill Alternate
	Richard Hume	Pioneer Hill Representative
	Phyllis Stallcop	Sunnyside Hill Representative
	Al Sorensen	Business Community Alternate
	DaVina Hoyt	Multicultural Alternate
	Patrick Horton	ASWSU Alternate
	Dallin Larsen	Pullman High School Representative
	Alex Wilson	Pullman High School Alternate
Staff:	Cmdr. Chris Tennant	Pullman Police Department
	Elysia Spencer	Pullman Police Department

CALL TO ORDER Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. The meeting had a quorum.

MINUTES Spencer advised that the minutes from the April 12, 2010 special joint meeting with WSU Police Advisory Board were not ready for approval, but would be ready at the June meeting.

REGULAR BUSINESS Spencer provided the Committee with an update on the search for a new police chief. A media release from Mayor Glenn Johnson was distributed. The applicant pool was narrowed down to seven finalists, who will be in Pullman on Wednesday, May 12th.

Update on New Police Chief Search

The candidates will have interviews before an interview committee, meet-and-greets with police department staff, city tours with Chief Weatherly, and an open house meet-and-greet open to the public in the City of Pullman Council Chambers at 5:00pm. The seven finalists are comprised of two candidates from California, one from Texas, one from Yakima County, one from Sequim (WA), one from Moscow PD and one from Pullman PD.

REGULAR BUSINESS
Mom's Weekend
Incident Follow-Up

A member asked about follow-up and/or fallout from the incident that occurred at SEL Event Center over Mom's Weekend. Tennant provided a brief overview of what occurred. A WSU student group rented the event center to host a step dance as part of an anniversary celebration for the student group. It was a non-alcoholic event; unfortunately, the event didn't go as planned.

Tennant clarified upfront that the problems were not with local students; the problems came from out-of-towners who essentially crashed the party. Tennant explained that there is a perception that it is just local students attending these functions, so when there is a problem it gets added to the stigma of the local student population. However, Pullman has become a destination "party town" and people travel to Pullman purely to party, and these individuals have no ownership or regard for Pullman; they are here to party and then move on to the next party scene. Tennant advised that there were individuals identified who had traveled from as far away as California to attend this party, in addition to people who came from Seattle, Boise, and Tri-Cities. Tennant advised that the event got out of control and fights began to break out, and the police were called.

Tennant praised the student group leaders who chose to shut the event down early and, with police assistance, got everyone out of the event center without too much property damage or injuries. However, the scope of the party had gotten so far out control that every active-duty officer in the area was pulled to the location to establish a presence, and moved from taking police action on an individual basis to preserving peace and crowd management tactics; thus, no arrests were made beyond one warrant arrest, although there could have been several. As fallout from this incident, an event scheduled for the following weekend was canceled.

Positives fallout of the incident:

- Successful police response
- Collaborative risk-assessment planning with SEL
- Cooperation between local students and police

Tennant advised that College Hill Beat Officer Heroff is working closely with various student groups to work on making adjustments to how these parties are organized and advertised in the hopes of preventing this type of incident in the future. Additionally, this work is aimed at preventing the concern expressed in the media about a possible community backlash against certain groups and/or minorities.

Barrett advised that the general consensus from students involved was that the police had done a great job. Barrett advised that the student groups are looking at a couple different ideas to help mitigate these issues in the future.

A member asked about the issue of alcohol at non-alcoholic functions. Tennant discussed the issue of tailgating and "pre-functioning" for events billed as non-alcoholic. A member asked about the issues of venues and security, and on-campus versus off-campus options.

Overall, Tennant advised that police activity was on the low end for a typical Mom's Weekend, with the exception of this incident.

REGULAR BUSINESS
Lentil Festival
August 20, 2010

In Parkay's absence, this was tabled beyond the suggestion that a sign-up sheet be distributed via email for members to start volunteering for time slots to work the booth.

REGULAR BUSINESS
2009 Annual Report

A copy of the Pullman Police Department 2009 Annual Report was distributed. Tennant reviewed some of the highlights of the report, including:

- Significant Events
 - Attempted Homicide (March 2009): Suspect arrested, charged, went to trial, and was just convicted on all counts and sentenced to 75 years in prison.
 - Armed Robbery (April 2009): Suspects later contacted in Wenatchee. Charges forwarded to prosecutor's office.
 - Coyote Problem: Decreased following the abandonment of the dens in summer.
 - Swine Flu
 - Taxi Ordinance: Passage due to influence and pressure brought by the Committee and ASWSU. Administrative processes continuing.
 - Energy Drinks Mixed With Alcohol Issues

- Evidence on Q Bar-coding System: Awarded federal grant to purchase computerized evidence bar-coding and tracking system. Been in use for six months, and was extremely instrumental in processing the thousands of stolen items recovered during the Christmas Break burglaries.
- Activities
 - Fighting Ordinance Enforcement
 - Business Registration and Rental Registration Ordinances
 - Emergency Management: The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan submitted to the state for approval in December.
 - Fireworks Enforcement
 - Open Container in Public Ordinance Enforcement
- Personnel
 - Strategic Staffing Concept: No movement due to budget
 - Commissioned Officers: Replacement officer at academy
 - Support Services: Fully staffed at year's end
 - Professional Reserves: Moving towards a "Citizen's Emergency Response Team" concept.
- Police Advisory Committee
 - Addressed a lot of issues in 2009
- City Council Goals (relevant to police function)
 - Proactively address College Hill issues: Following the lead set by Sgt. Sorem, more officers have bought into the "broken windows" concept and are proactively addressing nuisance issues on College Hill.
 - Proactive in code enforcement
 - Surveillance cameras: Has been put on backburner due to budget issues.
- Breakdown of Police Activity
 - Number of calls for service in 2009: 10,321
 - Big increase in marijuana seized

Tennant mentioned that there will not be a Citizens Academy this year due to budget constraints.

Tennant also raised the issue of addressing problems that have been discovered as part of the business and rental registration process, and the work that is being done to develop a consistent formula for addressing to hopefully assist emergency responders and the community at large.

Tennant mentioned that because there is not a city municipal court, all monies generated from traffic tickets go to county and state; the City of Pullman does not get any money from traffic tickets, just from parking tickets.

**CONSTITUENCIES
POLL**

- WSU Staff and Faculty: No representative
- College Hill: Advised that due to good weather, there were a couple bad party weekends with vandalism and fighting. Once the weather turned bad, things calmed down.
- Military Hill: Advised of a trouble spot in an overgrown area, and question of who is responsible for property. Also question about upcoming litigation.
- Pioneer Hill: Question about building construction in Lawson Gardens.
- Sunnyside Hill: No representative
- Business: Nothing
- Multicultural: Already covered
- ASWSU: Advised in transition period, and most likely will get new representatives in fall.
- Pullman School District: Nothing
- Pullman High School: No representative
- Pullman High School Parent: Nothing
- PTA Lincoln Middle School: No representative

**MEMBER AND
ALTERNATE
SEARCH RESULTS**

Spencer advised that an application was just submitted to for a potential new member. Spencer advised that the applicant was eligible for a couple of the openings, so it is unclear at this point which constituency they may be assigned to, if approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

A member expressed concern that the Committee was not more involved in the selection committee for the new police chief candidates, as well as that the names of the people chosen to be on the selection and interview committees were not made public.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, June 14th, 2010 at 5:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Wilson entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion for adjournment was seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

ATTEST:



Chair



Secretary