

Marion County Sheriff's Office

Community Advisory Committee Meeting

May 9, 2017 Agenda

MEETING LOCATION: Historic Butteville Store - 10767 Butte St NE, Aurora, OR 97002

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Committee Business:
 - a. Review of Minutes (2/21/17)
3. Roundtable Community Issues
4. Sheriff's Office Update

2017 Meeting Dates and Locations:

- 2/21 - hosted by Jail
- 5/9 – hosted by Greg Leo at Butteville Store
- 9/19 - hosted by TBA
- 11/21 - hosted by TBA

February 21, 2017 - Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Call to order: 6:27pm

Members Present:

Glen Rader, Debra Howard, Larry Parrish, Doug Vande Griend, Terry Witter, Oscar Quijano, Herb Colomb, Greg Leo, ~~Cari Fiske, Gary Rychard, Mark Messmer, Shirley DeShon, Kevin Fredinburg, Sandra Hernandez~~

Sheriff's Office Present:

Sheriff Jason Myers, Undersheriff Troy Clausen, Commander Sheila Lorance, Steve Staten

Guests:

Karl Polm-Faudre

1) Welcome & Introductions

-**Debra Howard** mentioned that Lt. Baldrige will be joining her for the Faith of Hope event on March 24th, he will be the guest speaker. Debra will send a flyer to Sara for distribution

-**Larry Parrish** recently sat on a jail Deputy interview panel, stated some really good candidates came through. Said it was a pleasure and encouraged others to take the opportunity if it comes available. Tuesday March 7th 6:30-8:30pm, there will be a Northfork community meeting, the last meeting had County, State, and Federal representatives and was very productive; looking forward to another productive meeting. Meeting will be held at Camp Cascade.

-**Terry Witter** also recently sat on a panel interview, for Parole and Probation. He also mentioned the candidates and the process were very good.

-**Oscar Quijano** mentioned the military ball will be on March 18, tickets are available.

- **Karl Polm-Faudre** gave a brief introduction and told how he and his husband found their way to Oregon about 18 months ago. He is a retired educator with a Doctorate in International Multicultural Education. For the past 7 years he'd been working for a medical center in Pennsylvania.

-**Glen Rader** mentioned he had the privilege of sitting on a promotion board for Enforcement Sergeant. Stated he had a lot of fun and appreciated being invited; was very impressed with the quality of the candidates. Glen mentioned a community meeting with Kurt Schrader tomorrow at North Salem High School.

-As part of Glen's discussion, the topic was raised that committee members would like to be notified of swearing in's and would like to show their support. Both Sheriff Myers and Cmdr Lorance advised they really appreciate the committees support and input and would be happy to invite the group.

-**Greg Leo** adv that the Butteville Store will be open for food and bluegrass music this summer. A follow up meeting regarding the north county traffic issues has been set for March 23. This will address what has happened since the September meeting, including public works projects and enforcement efforts. Spoke with a community group in Newberg where one person mentioned it's really easy to get from I-5 to Newberg via Ehlen Rd; Greg

urged people not to use these roads for that purpose, as they simply aren't designed for highway type traffic. Greg also mentioned some legislative efforts he's been working on, as well as sorting through the many many bills related to law enforcement. There is a meeting this Thursday to discuss law enforcement and other local issues with State Legislators; room 350.

2) Committee Business

- a) Greg motioned to approve the November 15, 2016 meeting minutes, Herb second. All aye. Approved.
- b) Proposal for the next meeting, 5/9/17, to be in Donald at the recently seismically upgraded Fire Hall. No objections. Glen Rader stated he happy to provide a ride to anyone who wants to carpool; they can contact him directly.

3) Committee Member Updates

Debrea Howard – She received a complaint from a community member in NE Salem regarding traffic and speeding, would like to see increased enforcement.

Larry Parrish – Addressed concerned around the impending solar eclipse and how it many impact the Canyon. Herb also mentioned concerns in South Salem and potentially I-5. Doug mentioned one occurred about 30 years ago and he doesn't recall any issues, however other members mentioned that there is significant travel expected. Sheriff Myers advised that planning around this event has already started and we're expecting people the day before and after as well. Larry also mentioned recent storms at the North Fork, he advised that there have been some recent power outages and prior to 18 months ago, when the power went down, the phone lines still worked for an hour or two on a battery backup system. Frontier has taken over from Verizon and now the phone lines don't seem to have any backup time. Often the power outages last for 14 hours or longer and without cell service he worries about the elderly or other vulnerable populations. Even the dedicated 911 phone at the fire hall goes down. Sheriff Myers advised that he will speak with the county Emergency Manager Ed Flick and see if we are able to get an answer from the phone company.

Terry Witter – Nothing additional to add from his prior introduction

Oscar Quijano – Mentioned his wife witnessed street racing on Shaw, may be worth looking into. He also mentioned there is a plan in the works to survey fjord sites state wide for when flooding occurs.

Doug Vande Griend – Brought up the recent robbery at gun-point in Santana Park, would love to catch the person responsible. Also mentioned that someone was killed in front of the park a number of years ago. On NextDoor someone was recently posted a rant regarding the police wanting more money. Doug advised this seemed to be directed to Salem PD, however, it may forecast community response to the MCSO levy. Unfortunately the poster wasn't very specific, so it's hard to know exactly what he was addressing.

Herb Colomb – In their subdivision construction has recently filled out some areas that were previously problem areas and have fixed that. However, he is concerned that with the eclipse people may try and drive into the field, while its dry, and may cause a fire.

Glen Rader – Mentioned that JanRee has been quite with no recent activity. Glen also mentioned that he witnessed two vehicles run a red light in front of a Deputy, who was looking at his computer and didn't witness the two vehicles. Would like consideration of a gentle

reminder that Deputies should be careful to be alert even when using the computer.

Greg Leo – Appreciates how press releases were handled around the recent murder/suicide/fire near Hubbard; would like to thank Lt. Baldrige for how he handled the press and avoided media speculation. Glen also seconded appreciation of Lt. Baldrige.

Karl – Raised a recent event in the City of Salem in which a gentleman died in Mill Creek after running from Salem PD. There was also another recent death in Shelton Ditch. Noted that the indigent population seems to be increasing.

4) Sheriff's Office Updates -

- **Levy** – Commissioners are supportive of the levy, Sheriff Myers is specifically working with Commission Cameron and the will be seeking some polling to gather community response. Given that City of Salem is expected to go out for their police building project this spring, MCSO will likely hold off until Fall for our levy project, giving a little more for polling.
- **Building Project** – Sheriff Myers advised that the building project continues to be on-going, recent sketches are looking great. Ground breaking should begin between March and November depending upon weather.
- **Dispatch Centers** – Undersheriff Clausen spoke about potential merging of METCOM and WVCC systems, which each handle a portion of our calls for service. Both centers operate on separate CAD systems which don't communicate with one another.
- Gave an example of calls from Jefferson going to METCOM, then to WVCC, then dispatched to MSCO, creating delays. WVCC CAD system is at end of life and needing replacement. A work group has been put together to look at a system that would allow for WVCC and METCOM to communicate, potentially the same system at a reduced rate.
- Currently working on a 180 day window, workgroup should have a recommendation within the next 5 months or so. Herb asked who is responsible for WVCC and if they are getting a new building, US Clausen advised that it is owned by City of Salem, under the Chief of Police, and has a dispatch center manager.
- It currently appears that WVCC will not be included in Salem PD's new building due to cost, however this may have some benefit in merging WVCC and METCOM in the future.
- Greg Leo stressed the importance of merging the centers to help communication, but the current issue is governance and how you integrate the systems in the best way for the public. North county also has to communicate with Clackamas County, further complicating the integration problem.
- Terry Witter asked about systems, US Clausen advised that NewWorld, which METCOM is using, is a well established system with a solid reputation. Terry stressed that he'd like to ensure we are moving toward the best system available.
- Glen asked if there is still a single channel that all agencies can use to communicate. US Clausen advised that interoperability still continues to be an issue and the State Radio Project may eventually provide better communication, but it's not there yet.
- Sheriff Myers advised that topography also plays a major role in radio

communication, while digital is great in flat areas, it doesn't perform as well as analog in canyons and mountain areas, resulting in simulcast systems.

- **Radio project** – US Clausen spoke about a radio failure we had two years ago in which both our primary channel and backup channel went down and we had no radio service. This resulted in a close look at our radio system and kicked off a large project to upgrade and update our radio system.
- A consultant was brought in to map out a new simulcast system with full coverage for both channels. We are mid-way through upgrades on Channel 3, about 75% of the way through the project. Still need repeaters/antennas in Aurora and Wippen Hill.
- Channel 1 needs a new microwave system to improve coverage downtown and on South River Rd. Currently JSU and other Deputies downtown aren't able to get out of the Courthouse building. We also have an issue with spill-over reception causing problems in other counties. Additionally, we are working to remove phone line connections, which generally have a host of service issues.
- Hoping to complete the project by the end of the year.
- Sheriff Myers advised that the County Commissioners have been very supportive of this project. Additionally, METCOM and agencies in the north county have approached us about partnering with our radio system. We will be looking at that, additionally, we will be watching digital radio projects with Salem and Keizer to ensure everyone can communicate. Dual and Tri-band radios
- US Clausen also advised of a grant through Emergency Management to look at radio systems in Marion County and how interoperability may be reached.
- Larry Parrish asked about radios vs cell towers. Sheriff Myers advised that if cell towers were to go down, the radios should still be operable, allowing communication during critical times.
- US Clausen also advised that there are talks between Polk and Marion County agencies to allow interoperability between radio systems, so they are able to back up one another. Additionally, there are further redundancies between the dispatch centers. If all else fails, Emergency Management has handheld HAM radios and ARES that could be used to temporary communication.
- US Clausen mentioned that Emergency Manager Ed Flick has done a great job with planning since joining the county 2 year ago.
- Oscar mentioned that the Army has a vehicle that is used to join radio systems allowing for local interoperability during emergencies.
- Herb mentioned that HAM licenses are available for about \$50 if anyone is interested.
- Greg Leo advised that he'd like to see dispatch located in an disaster/earthquake safe location that is easily securable.
- **Budget** – Sheriff Myers went over our current budgeting process. Advised over concerns at the state level, specifically PERS. Property tax revenues are up slightly due to new construction. However, we are watching Community Corrections funding, as they fund 28% of the jail and all of Parole and Probation, and with the State's \$1.8b budget shortfall, we do have some concerns about how it may impact

Marion County's funding. Sheriff Myers has been speaking with the legislature almost daily advocating for public safety funding.

- Greg Leo mentioned that PERS has significant funding ramifications
- **Community Meeting** – Sheriff Myers mentioned a meeting held around Ward 6 in Salem, which addressed a host of issues including over-crowding at McKay High School, homelessness, crime, sidewalks, etc. There is a follow-up meeting planned to further address these issues.
- **Homeless Task Force** – Sheriff Myers advised that he sat on a task force which took a hard look at homelessness in our area and developed strategies to reduce homelessness. Many of the strategies are long-term, however we have been working with the City of Salem to reduce jail cycles related to homelessness. The Sheriff's Office and other community partners are committed to addressing this important issues.
- Larry spoke about a recent news story out of Portland in which homeless warming centers were opened, but went largely unused. Discussion around why this occurs. Others mentioned that Salem does have good results with warming centers.
- Kurt spoke about the Trauma-Informed project in the City of Salem, to help address a number of issues to include homelessness. Would also like to see it looked at on a County level since it will require a lot of community integration. The Human Rights and Relations Advisory Commission should be making a recommendation regarding this project next month.
- Sheriff Myers spoke about our Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) as well as integrated para-medicine efforts, to help address a lot of these same issues and is glad to hear the HRRAC is working on similar issues at the same time.
- **Vehicle Design** – US Clausen gave a preview of a new Mustang vehicle design. Spoke briefly about unmarked vs marked vehicles. Advised that we'd like to bring in the European Battenberg design, which is highly visible; also look at a Silito-Chech design. The desire is to create a halo-effect that reduces traffic infractions when the vehicles are visible.
- **NextDoor** – Commander Lorance advised that NextDoor has doubled in numbers and has 20 new neighborhoods in the past 12 months
- **Hiring** – Commander Lorance advised that in the past 14 months we've had 72 new hires. Oscar asked how this compares to the trend over the past 5 years. Both Sheriff Myers and Commander Lorance advised that this is a high number, as we've seen a lot of retirements.
- **Jail Survey** – Currently budgeting for jail survey similar to the one we completed two years ago
- **Peer Support Team** – Has been extremely busy of the past few months, but we're glad we have this resource available given all the recent events.
- **Believe** – Larry asked how Believe is coming along, US Claussen advised that Law Enforcement Youth just recently closed their doors, opening up an opportunity for Believe, especially around Shop with a Cop.
- LEY was generous enough to donate their remaining funds to Believe. Additionally, the Center for Community Innovation offered to help file for 501(c)3 status, and

should be done very shortly. This will allow for foundation and tax-free donations/grants.

- Once this is complete, the Sheriff's Office plans to ask for the CAC help in identifying needs that Believe can benefit throughout the community. Additionally, Believe may help with community neighborhood groups to fundraise for park restoration.
- Larry asked if there are other similar non-profits in the area, Sheriff Myers advised most are inward facing for law-enforcement and will help buy LE equipment, where this will be more outward facing.
- Herb asked if Believe will still be able to accept Shop with a Cop donations specifically, US Clausen advised that a separate account will be kept for each specific fundraising ability.
- Commander Lorance advised that we also have access to Marion-Polk Food Share boxes to provide to families in need.
- US Clausen advised that long term he'd like to start a scholarship for at-risk youth.

No further business.

Adjourned at 8:08.