

WINTER HAVEN **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Public Safety Community Advisory Committee
Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.
Florida Citrus Building – Florida Room
500 Third Street NW
Winter Haven, FL 33881

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Tom Freijo, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL** - Jamie Brown, Committee Clerk

Present: Tom Freijo, Chair, Christina Fullerton, Pamela Turner-Musgrove, Richard Treuman, Linda Wingate;

Absent: Abdul Al-Khatib, Vice-Chair, Beth Luxford, Daniel Maxwell, Shandra Blocker

City Staff Present: Charlie Bird, Public Safety Director; David Brannan, Police Chief and Committee Liaison; Sonny Emery, Fire Chief; Christine Samuel, City Director of Diversity & Inclusivity; T. Michael Stavres, City Manager

3. **APPROVAL OF April 20, 2023 MEETING MINUTES** – Tom Freijo, Chair

Motion by Richard Treuman to accept the April 20, 2023 meeting minutes.

Second by Linda Wingate

Motion carried 5:0.

4. **WAYS TO MAKE COMMITTEE MORE VISIBLE TO THE COMMUNITY** - Richard Treuman

Richard Treuman discussed opportunities for members to attend City events. Treuman provided pricing for members to purchase embroidered Committee shirts to wear at events to promote the Committee.

5. **PAN-HANDLING IN THE MEDIAN** - David Brannan, Chief of Police

Chief Brannan gave an update on the City ordinance regarding pedestrian safety, matching what has been adopted in the County, prohibiting pedestrians from standing within medians to collect money – with the intent to decrease the number of injuries or fatalities in the roadways.

6. **RECENT SHOOTINGS AND STAND YOUR GROUND LAWS IN THE NEWS** – David Brannan, Chief of Police

Chief Brannan gave an overview of Stand Your Ground and the history of the law in the State of Florida, including updates through the years to date and how it impacts the recent Ocala case.

7. **ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING** – Charlie Bird, Director of Public Safety

Director Bird updated the Committee of the presentation Chief Emery and Chief Brannan have developed between Police and Fire on Active Shooter Training to include site visits and practical education that will be offered to the community. It was agreed that members of the Committee would be invited to join a training group.

8. **DE-ESCALATION TRAINING** - Charlie Bird, Public Safety Director

Director Bird discussed the concept of de-escalation and how it works in stressful situations. He indicated that there are plans to offer the training to all City employees.

9. **SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

None at this time.

10. **SELECTION OF NEXT MEETING DATE** – October 19, 2023, at 6 p.m. in the Florida Room at Nora Mayo Hall

Motion by Richard Treuman.

Second by Pamela Turner-Musgrove.

Motion carried 5:0.

11. **POLICE REPORT** - David Brannan, Chief of Police

Accreditation: Chief Brannan gave an update on upcoming State and International accreditations.

Youth Police Initiative: Chief Brannan discussed the group, Youth Police Initiative, which is a program for at-risk youth, that will come in with a train-the-trainer for our officers at no cost to the agency. This will be a very beneficial program for our agency to build stronger relationships with our area youth.

12. **FIRE REPORT** – Sonny Emery, Fire Chief

Three New Battalion Chiefs – Chief Emery updated the Committee on the outstanding job the three newly promoted Battalion Chiefs are doing.

New Hires - Seven new-hires completed onboarding process and are now on the trucks.

Training - Joint Active Shooter Training with Police ongoing this month.

13. **PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR REPORT** – Charlie Bird, Director of Public Safety

Nothing to report.

14. **COMMITTEE CLERK REPORT:** Jamie Brown, Committee Clerk

Jamie Brown invited Committee members to the July 19 Oath of Office ceremony.

15. **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS:**

None

16. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Christina Fullerton to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Second by Linda Wingate.

Motion carried 5:0

ATTEST:

Jamie Brown
Committee Clerk
Public Safety Department

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



Tom Freijo
Committee Chair