

**CASA GRANDE POLICE ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
510 E. FLORENCE BLVD. – CASA GRANDE, AZ 85122**

OCTOBER 9, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mikel McBride called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

All board members were present:

Mikel McBride, Chairman
Rodolfo Calvillo, Vice Chairman
Joshua Carstens, Board Member
Diana Curtis, Board Member
Anabel Bevan, Board Member
Roger Vanderpool, Board Member
Johnjaline Cully, Board Member

D. MINUTES

Chairman McBride asked for a motion for approval of the minutes from the July 10, 2014 meeting. Board Member Curtis motioned for acceptance of the minutes, which was seconded by Board Member Carstens. The motion was approved by a 7-0 vote.

E. PRESENTATIONS

E.1 K-9 Presentation

K-9 Officer Scott Reed and his K-9 Wyatt and K-9 Officer Erik Moe and his K-9 Floki presented a demo of a narcotics search. Officer Reed explained that the K-9s often come from places such as Holland, Germany, and Italy, where they are trained in arena sports as pups and sold to vendors, who then sell the dogs to law enforcement agencies and the military. Once we acquire the dog, we take them through all stages of narcotics training and get them certified, which takes about 5 weeks. The dog costs around \$9,600.00 but pays for itself many times over in the amount of seizures it brings. Chairman McBride excused the K-9 officers from the meeting following their presentation.

F. NEW BUSINESS

F.1 Issue of shopping carts scattered around the city

The increased sighting of shopping carts around the community was discussed. It was discussed whether this issue could be resolved through code enforcement, certain ordinances, or with the Planning Department. Chief Cervantes said he would check with the local stores and see if they had a plan or policy for cart collection.

F.2 Police Advisory Board Event Involvement

Board Member Carstens emphasized the importance of participating in events such as the recent Silent Witness event. It was discussed that participation can occur through booths, pamphlets, and flyers. Many people may not know that the board exists, or may not know the function of the board, so getting the word out is important as the board is meant to serve as a conduit between the community and PD. Chief Cervantes invited the board to participate in as many activities as possible, such as the upcoming Electric Light Parade. The pros and cons of setting up email addresses for the board to improve line of communication with citizens was discussed; it may be easier for the citizens to contact the board with sensitive concerns, but there may be some public records considerations to ponder.

F.3 Police Advisory Board Community Involvement

On a related note to the above agenda item (F.2), it was discussed that the board would like to collaborate with other local community groups and possibly have one group come to the next board meeting and present their cause. Vice Chairman Calvillo motioned for Cindy Schaider of the Casa Grande Alliance (or her designee) to present at the next Police Advisory Board meeting. This motion was seconded by Board Member Vanderpool. All Members voted in favor of the motion. Chairman McBride said he would contact Ms. Schaider about the presentation.

F.4 Police Department Update

A summary was given regarding the last few months' events stemming from the PD's Strategic Plan Update by Chief Cervantes.

Two board members gave first-hand accounts based on their attendance of the two Strategic Plan Update meetings. Vice Chairman Calvillo relayed that the meetings he attended with the police department employees seemed "haphazard" and contained the voicing of many complaints. Chairman McBride agreed that he had similar observations, and that many people did not seem very aware as to the agenda of the meeting. Some employees expressed that they did not identify with the Strategic Plan, as it was 'not their plan'. Many employees seemed to take issue with the SP's original facilitator.

Board Member Cully inquired about the retention issues and whether the reasons/issues have been concretely stated. General reasons for wanting to relocate/begin employment elsewhere were discussed.

Board Member Curtis mentioned that many other agencies are facing similar retention issues.

Vice Chairman Calvillo expressed his plan to write a letter to city management outlining what he has witnessed so far. Chief Cervantes highlighted that the department is still full of talented men and women.

Board Member Vanderpool relayed that he would like to table the current discussion until legal advisement can be obtained.

A short break was taken.

F.5 Training Feedback and Update

Vice Chairman Calvillo wanted to commend the department's effort in including the board members in their various training events and express his interest in any further training opportunities, as doing so gives insight into the activities of the employees.

F.6 Police Advisory Board Letter of Support for Chief Cervantes

This agenda item was tabled until further legal advisement can be obtained.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

H. REPORTS BY OFFICERS

None.

I. PUBLIC/BOARD COMMENTS

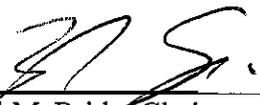
Chairman McBride mentioned that the Taste of Casa Grande event is upcoming.

Denis Fitzgibbons, who identified himself as the attorney for AZCOPS, spoke on the subject of current department issues and the proposed letter of support. He expressed his disagreement with calling Casa Grande a "training ground" for other agencies. Mr. Fitzgibbons thanked the board for tabling the letter of support and made his wishes known that resolution/mediation process go forward in good faith and not in front of this board.

J. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m.

Approved this 8th day, of January, 2015 by the Casa Grande Police
Advisory Board.


Mikel McBride, Chairman

1-8-15
Date