

**Murray Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes****Wednesday, September 8, 2021****Held at Fire Department Station #81****4848 South Box Elder Street****Time: 6:00 – 7:24 pm**

**In attendance:** Chairperson: Alli Garrison; Vice Chairperson: Andrea Washburn; Fire Chief Jon Harris; Police Lieutenant Jake Huggard, Scott Goodman; Wayne Manu and Deborah Crane.

**Excused:** Police Chief Craig Burnett, Police Deputy Chief Mike Obrey, Brian Lohrke, John Prestwich

**Allison Garrison Conducting**

**Approval of Minutes:**

PSAB Meeting - August 11, 2021

Approved

**Citizen Comments:**

No comments made.

**Discussion Items:****1. Murray Police Ride-alongs**

Andrea indicated her ride along was uneventful.

Scott commented that it was not what he expected.

Deb made the observation of how kind Sgt. Pearson was to a homeless woman that was have a conflict with another woman.

*Chief Harris asked Lt. Huggard if officers always travel alone in their patrol cars? Lt. Huggard indicated that in most cases yes.*

Lt. Huggard went on to explain that if there is a major emergency event - the officers all meet at a predetermined location and travel together to conserve fuel reserves.

Alli shared the hospital experience on her ride along.

In addition, she went to a location three times where police had been called and it also led to the hospital.

Briefing - was interesting as the sergeant discusses events and information from the earlier shift in preparation for the upcoming shift.

Lt. Huggard shared that Mental Health issues can be challenging in obtaining the resources these citizens need. They would like to have mental health officers on calls regarding these issues.

## **2. Family Health Safety Fair**

August 16, 2021 - review

Alli's perspective

Kids loved it

Good attendance by community

Lots of activities for kids

Booths were interesting for example, Murray Museum

There is a need for some updates according to Chief Harris and Lt. Huggard. Possibly a new perspective and new involvement. Things to consider for next year.

Announcements were hard to make, equipment was poor for the volume of people and they were unable to hear announcements.

Wayne suggested that they might start with a theme-Chief Harris thought it was a good idea.

They used to have a bike rodeo and discuss the bike's safety features and activities.

Another suggestion was to discuss disposal of medication and old ammunition. Lt. Huggard explained the procedure and felt it would be a great addition for next year.

Alli suggested as focuses:

- What about Home Safety
- Earthquake planning
- Emergency preparedness

Wayne indicated he liked the idea of the fair and the community element as he felt it gave the citizens an opportunity to meet with the police officers and make connections.

Another suggestion was to change the fair night from August to September when it isn't quite so hot and utilize the schools to distribute flyers to community members as a simply way to advertise.

Maybe doing it later in the year after school starts two to three weeks after school starts might insure it is cooler temperatures.

Some of the booths could have police officers such as the

crime hotlines and information booth - Include an officer who might be more outgoing and interact more with the crowd.

Wayne asked who is in charge of this event? It is generally understood that Murray Parks and Recreation and Fire Chief Harris and Police Chief Burnett share the responsibility of the Safety Fair. Scott suggested that centralizing the stage so it is in a better location might assist with the announcements.

Fire extinguisher demonstration and use of it is always an important focus. They also gave away fire extinguishers after the demonstration donated by local companies.

Alli suggested that they do a demonstration at the Senior Center to help the senior citizens who are more likely to have an issue with a fire. Chief Harris is considering the possibility.

Wayne suggested that we do some recruiting to assist in this activity for next year.

### **3. Murray PD Citizen Complaint**

Alli suggested that the complaint be made an interactive form online instead of the form outline that requires to be download and printed, then distributed to the police department by hand or email.

This would give an opportunity to include positive, neutral and complaints on form. This would also eliminate the issue of the document in multiple languages as online translators such as Google would make it possible for any language to utilize the online form.

Wayne identified that having questions that guide you through the form is better than simply lines for information. This is helpful to anyone filling in the important information to include.

Scott discussed a verbal complaint that was received through dispatch by Sergeant Pearson. Many individuals wish to complain about an event or officer with a phone call discussion with a supervising officer.

Lt. Huggard indicated that they have taken the online suggestion and creating an online form. The IT department is creating an online form. He indicated that feedback is always good for the department and they take the complaints seriously.

Wayne - commented that having transparency and the procedure for complaints clearly outlined and reviewed by supervisors and that they are followed through is important and citizens should know the process.

If the form is corrected and improved for online use - feedback would be great for all divisions of the police.

Having a form is good documentation for the complaint and information for follow-up.

Alli suggested that the dispatch could be using the form and send to the officers in charge as well.

Andrea suggested that a Public Safety app would be helpful where citizens could gain information and make complaints making it very accessible.

Chief Harris when receiving a complaint, he asks if the individual would like to be contacted as part of the resolution. This would be valuable to add to this to the feedback form.

Andrea discussed the perspective of individuals that might be afraid to make a complaint feeling they would not be heard or taken seriously.

Andrea asked, "What protections does a person filling a complaint on a serious issue?" Could retaliation be an issue?"

Lt. Huggard indicated that they do have the ability to gain all the information they need without informing the officer involved of a serious complaint.

It would be important to have a special procedure to hear complaints that would be automatic if a certain kind of issue is involved for citizen security and safety.

#### **4. Recent developments, Issues or concerns**

Alli reached out to the city attorney, G.L. Critchfield, to identify if it would be possible to have mayor candidates attend a board meeting and share their ideas on police and fire issues. It is not possible for this to happen because we are supported by the Murray City agencies.

#### **Announcements:**

Chief Harris wanted to make sure that the Community Breakfast be on the PSA Board Meeting agenda for October in preparation for the activity in the Spring.

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:24 pm**