

**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2011 5:30 P.M.
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ellen Major-Hannah
DeAnna Longo
Wyana Claxton
Catherine DeMatto
Edith Thompson
Kevin Warner
Robert Shell
Walter Earley
Elisha Porter

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Carl Forrest
Matthew Monahan

STAFF PRESENT:

Cathy Kozol, Police Legal Advisor
Anthony Strianese, Police Chief

STAFF ABSENT:

GUEST OTHERS:

None

1. CALL TO ORDER:

In the absence of a Chairperson, the meeting was called to order by Police Legal Advisor, Ms. Cathy Kozol, at 5:45 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS:

Introductions were made by all Board members and staff.

3. APPROVAL AND/OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Mr. Earley made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Warner. Said motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JULY 11, 2011:

Mr. Warner made a motion to approve the minutes of July 11, 2011, seconded by Ms. Ellen Major Hanna. Said motion passed unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

None

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Select A New Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Mr. Warner made a motion to elect Mr. Forrest as Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Earley. Said motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Warner made a motion to elect Mr. Shell as Vice Chairperson, seconded by Ms. Longo. Said motion passed unanimously.

At this time, the meeting the role of the Chairperson was continued by Mr. Shell.

7. DISCUSSION CONCERNING NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

Chief Strianese will provide an overview of crime in the City.

8. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS/STAFF:

Chief Strianese noted that the most significant accomplishment is a three year contract with the union members. Secondly, an International City Manager's Association (ICMA) staffing study was completed with results recommending reduction of the number of sworn officers employed by the City. Staff is working on a response to the recommendation.

Mr. Earley asked about the fee charged for registering a house alarm. He wanted to know if there is still response if the fee is unpaid.

Chief Strianese stated that there will be limited response unless there is a silent panic or an emergency.

Ms. Longo asked about a reduction of traffic investigators.

Chief Strianese advised that community service officers are used for traffic crashes. Community service officers are paid lower wages than police officers. Alternative methods are used to address some service calls.

Chief Strianese advised that a new field reporting and records management system have been implemented as of July 2011. He then spoke of crimes that have been solved.

Mr. Shell stated that 85% of all indictments plead guilty. Ten percent is seen by a judge. Five percent go to trial.

Chief Strianese noted that Palm Beach County has only seven felony criminal court judges. 16, 500 are filed every year. Over 14,000 cases are subject to pleadings.

Mr. Earley asked if Board members still have their own beats.

Chief Strianese advised that Board members no longer have beats. However, they may accompany an officer on a ride-a-long.

Mr. Earley asked about the Criminal Justice Academy and the Citizens Police Academy.

Chief Strianese stated that the Criminal Justice Academy has been successful. The Citizens Police Academy still exists.

Ms. Longo asked about the transient homes in Delray Beach.

Chief Strianese stated that Delray Beach is known to occupy a lot of individuals that are in a rehabilitation environment. He is unsure as to the number of homes but it may be approximately 227 structures.

Ms. Kozol stated that the homes cannot be regulated because of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Ms. Longo complimented the Teen Center. She noted that police officers are very involved there, as well as, at Atlantic High School. However, when the Teen Center closes, teens that are not registered will hang out by the basketball area. She then spoke of a neighboring home that sells alcohol out of the residence.

Mr. Shell asked about the volunteers from Homeland Security possibly getting radios instead of using their cell phones for City business.

Chief Strianese advised that he will confer with the individual in charge of that unit.

Mr. Shell noted that the Delray Beach Lodge of Elks may fund the cost of radios. He then asked if the Intracoastal Patrol will be reinstated.

Chief Strianese stated that the Intracoastal Patrol is probably not going to be reinstated in the near future as the boat was sold. A smaller boat may be considered for the purpose of patrolling or to make an entry into a home on the water.

Ms. DeMatto asked if cameras are installed at intersections in Delray Beach.

Chief Strianese stated that the City has looked into installation of the cameras.

Discussion ensued regarding red light cameras.

Mr. Shell spoke of a judge that dismissed over 300 traffic cases involving flashing of lights.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mr. Shell, Vice Chairperson, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Venice Cobb, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison

The undersigned is the Secretary of the Police Advisory Board and the information provided herein is the minutes of the meeting of said Police Advisory Board of October 10, 2011, which minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Board on _____.

Venice Cobb, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison

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S/City Clerk/Boards/Police Advisory Board/minutes