

**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2008, 5:30 P.M.
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Walter Earley
Shelly Weil
Joshua Bressler
John Jackson
Grace Maybee
Annette Annechild
Jimmy Weatherspoon
Samuel Menard
Joseph Ingram

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Sinam Al-Khafaji
Jose Herrera

STAFF PRESENT:

Cathy Kozol
Chief Anthony Strianese

STAFF ABSENT:

None

GUEST OTHERS:

Officer Eric Aronowitz

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Mr. Shelly Weil, at 5:33 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS:

No introductions were made at this time.

3. APPROVAL AND/OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Mr. Bressler made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Said motion passed unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Ms. Annechild made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of July 14, 2008, seconded by Mr. Weatherspoon. Said motion passed unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Ms. Priscilla Harris Complaint

Chief Strianese stated that the mapping software prompted the responding officer to the north of the complainant's location because the numbers of the address were transposed. The officer

should have asked dispatch for a corrected address. Chief Strianese stated that a hard copy report was not completed for the complaint. Therefore it was not documented on the City's website.

Ms. Priscilla was contacted and sent an official letter of apology.

Ms. Annechild inquired as to whether or not the responding officer was reprimanded.

Chief Strianese advised that the officer and his supervisor received a letter regarding the incident placed in their work file.

At this time, Ms. Annechild spoke of the success of the summer camp and the upcoming school supply giveaway.

Mr. Samuel Menard was introduced by Chairperson, Shelly Weil. The Board members introduced themselves as well.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

Mr. Weil stated that there have been rumors regarding the Delray Beach Police Department merging with the Sheriff's Office in the future.

Chief Strianese advised that he is unaware of any plans for the Police Department to merge with the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Bressler inquired as to whether the Sheriff's Office supports the City of Delray Beach in emergency situations.

Chief Strianese advised that the City of Delray Beach has a good working relationship with the Sheriff's Office and stated that they do offer support in emergency situations.

B. Deployment of Pepper Ball Spray

Officer Eric Aronowitz, training officer for the Police Department, introduced the new, less than lethal technology, called the pepper ball spray. He spoke of the use of the equipment and the pepper spray irritant used inside. Officer Aronowitz explained that although aiming is usually from the chest downward, it can be used in a deadly force situation where the machine could be aimed to the head. He noted that the pepper ball spray replaced the bean bags used previously.

Mr. Weatherspoon inquired as to whether there have been times where the bean bags had to be used.

Officer Aronowitz advised that the bean bags have been used in situations where people have been hidden in a home or when a subject has had a knife.

Mr. Weil inquired about the distance that can be covered by the pepper ball spray.

Officer Aronowitz advised that the machine will cover in excess of 100 feet to obtain an area of saturation. He noted that this machine will not replace the taser. The equipment is capable of giving the extended range that the tasers cannot. The Delray Beach Police Department has two machines which are carried by the road patrol sergeants trained in the utilization process.

Mr. Weatherspoon inquired about the cost.

Officer Aronowitz stated that the cost is \$1,500.00 which includes the agent used in the machine. He noted that there is very little cost for maintenance.

Mr. Weil inquired as to whether the machine is being used by other agencies.

Officer Aronowitz stated that the machine is being used by most agencies.

At this time, Mr. Weil spoke about the advertisement done to make people aware of the presence of the Police Advisory Board and its function.

Mr. Weil suggested organizing an annual open house where Homeowners Association members can attend for discussion of things taking place in their respective community.

Board members were in favor of an annual open house.

Chief Strianese stated he is unsure of the type of response which will be received due to the fact that the Police Department attends Homeowners Association meetings.

Mr. Weil feels that the annual open house will be beneficial to the smaller Homeowners Associations.

Mr. Weil spoke of supplying the City's Engineering Department with addresses of the surrounding churches to include in a map of the City.

7. DISCUSSION CONCERNING NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

Chief Strianese will discuss the mid year report, as well as, the 2007 annual report.

8. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Weil mentioned having more of an input in the selection of upcoming Board members by contacting the Commission as interested individuals instead of Board members.

Ms. Annechild spoke of Ms. Patty Weiss who is an interested applicant. She feels that Ms. Weiss would be a great addition to the Board.

Mr. Jackson inquired as to whether there will be a loss of police officers due to the budget cuts.

Chief Strianese stated that there will be no loss of police officers because there are current vacancies that will not be filled during the fiscal year 2008-2009.

Board members feel that a mailing to churches with information about the Police Advisory Board would be beneficial.

Chief Strianese will introduce Major Joseph Milenkovic and Captain Javaro Sims at the next meeting.

Mr. Bressler spoke about an incident where a gentleman came to their door stating that his car broke down. Mr. Bressler's wife gave the gentleman money and he left. Thirty minutes later the same gentleman was found inside a neighbor's home. He stated that Mr. Bressler's wife sent him over. The gentleman entered the neighbor's home without her permission and was found in her living room.

Mr. Weil also spoke of a worldwide incident where a gentleman had children working for him asking for some type of contribution or selling product that would not be received.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Earley made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Ms. Annechild. Said motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Chairperson, Mr. Shelly Weil, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:33 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 August 11, 2008, which minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Board on _____.

Venice Cobb, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison

NOTE TO READER: If the minutes you have received are not completed as indicated above, this means they are not the official minutes of the Police Advisory Board. They will become official minutes only after review and approval, which may involve some amendments, additions or deletions.