

Public Safety Commission

3-2-2015 Meeting Assembly Chambers 5:30pm

Commissioners present: Judy Erekson, Jim Stanford, Bob Duis, Judy Ewald and Kay Clements

Also present: Manager Sosa, Diana Lapham, Chief Musser, Mayor Hill, Carol Duis, Bill Mandeville

Agenda – JE approved, BD/2 unanimous

Minutes from February – JE approved, JLE/2

Old Business:

- HELP Committee Report – PSC rep missed meeting due to time confusion
- Response to PSC letter – Manager Sosa sent a draft response to PSC and confirmed that nothing has substantially changed in interim. Food and rations not highest priority given list of neglected projects and deferred maintenance of public facilities.

New Business:

- Chief Musser's report – citing low crime rate and working on better clearance rate. Acknowledged that some crime is undoubtedly drug-related crime but hard to pinpoint exact cause and effect. Borough is working with school district and local services on community responsibility for issues. Requires diplomatic approach to parents and kids but Dr. Jewell maintains zero tolerance at school and does not hesitate to contact families if drug use is suspected. Economy noted as having big impact on family environment.
- Phase one of the survey of HPD going ahead. Goal is to assess culture and effectiveness of policing in Haines. Lack of trust and lack of training noted as key factors to overcome to have respected force. The survey will be delivered to the manager who will make decisions on how to move forward with results which will be made public.
- Discussion of PSC – role of the commission is defined in code. Code description noted to be variously both vague and restrictive. Basic role to identify issues and make staff and assembly aware of what the needs are and/or fund certain things the PSC feels are important.
- Public health nurse Brigid O'Connor suggested as addition to PSC. JS moves to approach Brigid O'Connor, KC/2. Unanimous, JS will contact.
- PSC looking briefly at how to help with marijuana discussion. Chief gave quick refreshed on what is legal/illegal. Tabled until more information is available from state.

Meeting adjourned: 6:30pm

Next meeting is April 6th, 5:30pm

May meeting date to be determined. PSC will be on 3-month sabbatical from June - August

JE moves to adjourn, BD/2 unanimous!