

Minutes
Public Safety Commission
Town of Boonsboro
February 16, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.
Boonsboro Town Hall Annex
21 North Main Street
Boonsboro, MD

Meeting called to order at 6:58 p.m. by Chair Kim LaBrush

Present: Kim LaBrush, Ena Martin, Harry Nogle, Kyle O'Connor, Jay Metz, Bo Quinn, Greg Seymour, Marilee Kerns - Council Liaison

Absent: Brian Smith, Rick Stevens, BPD Representative

Guests: none

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the January 19, 2023 meeting were emailed to the committee for review. The minutes were approved by a motion from Kyle O'Connor, second by Greg Seymour and vote by commission.

Citizens Comments: none

Old Business:

Commission Appointments: Chair LaBrush asked member Bo Quinn if he'd like to serve a two- or four-year term; Bo Quinn elected to serve a two-year term, so Brian Smith will serve the four-year term.

School House Manor: BVFD Kyle O'Connor stated they are still in communication and working with School House Manor and Washington County Housing Authority.

High Street Traffic: Handled

Opticom Traffic Signal: Chair Kim LaBrush sent out information received from Town Manager regarding formal request. Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Company have submitted their letter. BVFD representative Kyle O'Connor stated Boonsboro Fire Chief is working on their letter. Chair Kim LaBrush will confirm that request includes signage and flashing light.

Knox Boxes: The commission will use the same information included in the Town Quarterly Newsletter for the EDC Business Newsletter.

Safety Training Equipment: Council liaison Kerns reported Town Council approved the commission to spend the \$1,051.00 from National Night Out funds for purchase of safety training equipment. Jay Metz motioned to purchase Stop the Bleed Training Kit, second by Kyle O'Connor. Motion passed unanimously.

Sidewalk Ordinance: The Town Sidewalk Ordinance was distributed to the committee via email. Chair Kim LaBrush noted that Boonsboro's ordinance was more lenient than City of Hagerstown in allowing 90 days to repair vs. 30 days. The commission will plan to walk thru town and inspect sidewalks in the Spring, possibly ask Superintendent Greg Huntsberry to accompany commission. The commission is requesting the Town Sidewalk Ordinance be published on the Town website. Chair Kim LaBrush will write a small article for the town newsletter. There was discussion about Potomac Street sidewalks and if they are ADA compliant and the possibility of grant funding to bring Potomac Street sidewalks to compliance. The fencing in front of Dan's Tap House was discussed and whether it is ADA compliant.

New Business:

Safety Commission Budget: Commission Chair Kim LaBrush included past budget history in the email with the agenda. Commission members are to consider projects and funding requests and bring to the March meeting for discussion. Commission discussed asking for \$2,000.00 for special projects – this would fund the CPR Training kit. Jay Metz stated there are three levels of CPR certifications: Hands Only; Heart Saver – uses mask & compressions; Health Care Provider level. The feedback devices would allow for all three types of certifications.

National Night Out: Chair Kim LaBrush stated National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2023. We can include CPR and Stop the Bleed demonstrations, Chair Kim LaBrush is working on securing participants for the event. Chair Kim LaBrush stated the need for a PA system. She stated the mayor agreed that the PA system needed replaced. Council Liaison Kerns commented that there was mention at Town meeting regarding the PA system being repaired or replaced – she will inquire.

Chairman's Report: Chair will write an article for the Town Newsletter giving citizen's information about the County non-emergency # 240-313-4345 for use vs. dialing 911. Chair LaBrush stated she participated in a webinar for Drug-Free Communities forwarded from Congressman Trone's Office. There are grant opportunities but she stated this would require a town position or town staff to be assigned and had numerous requirements and duties. It would require extensive commitment and appears to be at a level more advanced than we are ready to tackle. Chair Kim LaBrush asked the committee of concerns regarding the Food Truck Festival before she responds to the EDC:

- Safety Commission does not think the street should be blocked off – would like to see trucks parked in the park area like at carnival and Boonsboro Days
- Safety Commission would like to see the parking area by the community center be for handicapped parking only and be monitored.

Other New Business: Kyle O'Connor inquired if the Town had requirements for house numbering. He stated that the high visibility numbers are very helpful to emergency responders. He said some homeowner associations do not like these numbers. Council Liaison Marilee Kerns stated the Town does have requirements regarding house numbering and she would request and forward to commission the ordinance. Ena Martin stated she thought Town Ordinance would over rule home owner association rules.

Boonsboro Police Department – Chief Morgan

No representative able to attend

Boonsboro Fire Department Report – Kyle O’Connor

Kyle O’Connor raised concern of USPS delivery vehicles and other vehicles stopping on Potomac Street and hindering traffic. Asked if signage or red curbing is necessary since parking is only allowed on one side of the street. Commission will inquire with BPD and ask BPD to monitor. Thursday, March 23 – Carry out meals will be available at Station #8 – ongoing fundraiser – please spread the word and support the Volunteer Fire Company.

Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Company Report – Jay Metz

Jay Metz stated that the Rescue Company has two volunteers to be community outreach members – they will be able to help with training and other projects. Jay Metz reported that the EMS & BVFD have been working well together and that Washington County is discussing having an EMS at Station #8 to serve Southern Washington County.

Council Liaison Report – Marilee Kerns

Marilee Kerns reported the crosswalk project and school intersection projects are moving forward. She stated she requested the commission be kept in the loop as the “Safe Paths to School” sidewalk project moves forward, Town would begin budget process soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. by motion from Kyle O’Conner, second by Bo Quinn and commission consensus.

Next Meeting Thursday, March 9, 2023 – 7:00pm Town Hall Annex

Respectfully submitted,

Marilee Kerns