

**Minutes
Public Safety Commission
Town of Boonsboro
August 18, 2022**

7:00 p.m.

Boonsboro Town Hall Annex
21 North Main Street
Boonsboro, MD

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Kim LaBrush
Present: Kim LaBrush, Kyle O'Connor, Jay Metz, Harry Nogle, Rick Stevens,
Officer Ted Ballesteros – BPD, Marilee Kerns, Council Liaison
Absent: Ena Martin, Greg Seymour
Proposed Members Not in Attendance: Bo Quinn
Guests: Tom Bikle

Introductions – Brief introductions were made. Kim LaBrush – Chair is representing Kinsey Heights development; Tom Bikle – lifelong resident here to voice concern; Rick Stevens lifelong resident and represents area near Boonsboro Park; Marilee Kerns lifelong resident and Council liaison and lives in Gray Stone development; Harry Nogle longtime resident and would represent Crestview community; Kyle O'Connor representative from Boonsboro Volunteer Fire Department; Jay Metz representative from Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Company. Those not in attendance -Ena Martin is Fletcher's Grove HOA President and represents that development and is commission Co-Chair; Bo Quinn has expressed interest but hasn't attended yet; Greg Seymour was on the commission prior, but Chair has not been able to make contact.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the July 21, 2022 meeting were emailed to the committee for review. The minutes were approved as written by a motion from Rick Stevens, second by Jay Metz and vote by commission.

Citizens Comments: Tom Bikle

Mr. Bikle is concerned with the traffic he has witnessed and personally encountered going the opposite way on the one-way street – Reeder's Alley. He stated he is concerned with how to handle the situation, as he has had to back up to allow someone going the wrong direction to get around him. Officer Ballesteros advised him to remain in his vehicle and call police. The streets are used as short cuts to avoid the traffic congestion at the square during the busy morning and evening hours and a day care center is located there. Mr. Bikle asked for additional police surveillance of the area to issue citations to offenders and suggested maybe better signage – such as Left Turn Only at the stop at Young Avenue and Reeder's Alley. Mr. Bikle stated some of the signage is faded. Public Safety Commission is requesting Public Works to inspect signage and replace is needed. Maybe Public Works and BPD can give recommendation of additional or alternative signage. Maybe a letter to Day Care to remind parents of one-way traffic.

Old Business:

National Night Out: Chair Kim LaBrush gave an update on National Night Out held Tuesday, August 2 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Schafer Park in Boonsboro. She stated we served approximately 1,300 that evening. She gave thanks to the BVFD & Rescue Company for participating and whoever was quick to get the communication going with the helicopter for landing location. Special thanks to Christi Weaver for coordinating the event and being persistent to secure us the helicopter. A mention to Brian Albert for making the helicopter happen for us in Boonsboro. Chair Kim LaBrush stated she is working to reserve the rock wall for 2023. Chair LaBrush state she received a letter of appreciation for our nice event from a citizen.

Commission Appointments: The commission would like to recommend Harry Nogle to a two-year appointment at the next Mayor & Council meeting. Member Christi Weaver is going to be unable to fulfill her term and submitted her resignation. Chair LaBrush has contacted Brian Smith to see if he is interested in representing the North Main Street area of town. He will need to submit his volunteer interest form.

Town Public Meeting for Chase Six – Campus Drive Intersection: Chair Kim LaBrush stated she attended the meeting and thought it was a positive meeting with plenty of community support for the project. Rick Stevens asked why there was no representation from the County Commissioners. Council liaison Kerns stated she did not no why no one from the county was in attendance. She stated that the commissioners have been briefed of the project and some had attended the town's meeting regarding the project in July and expressed their support.

CPR Training & Narcan: Chair LaBrush asked Ambulance Company representative Jay Metz if he had any updates for possible CPR training class. He stated that a hands only non-certification class could be taught if there is community interest. The class could be scheduled for a Saturday morning, possibly 9:00 – 12:00 with approximately 10 students for each hour. Discussion of using the new training facility on Sharpsburg Pike was mentioned – this would accommodate larger participation. Narcan training is thru Washington County Health Department and would need coordinated with them. Hosting a Stop the Bleed class could be offered. There are grants available and they promote this during month of May. (www.stopthebleed.org) Maybe the classes could be simultaneously and participants could rotate thru courses over the 3 hours. Maybe the Town can do a poll to see if there is interest.

Washington Goes Purple: Chair Kim LaBrush gave a recap. There was a suggestion of placing a drop box at Boonsboro Pharmacy and Weiss Pharmacy was also mentioned, chair stated she will reach out to see if either are interested and contact Health Department to see what is involved. There was discussion about hosting a drop off location or drive thru event at either the park or library to collect unused and out dated drugs for disposal.

Mission Statement: Chair Kim LaBrush stated she did not do any further work on a mission statement since last meeting.

School House Manor: Chair Kim LaBrush stated that contact information for BVFD to address

the house numbering and emergency lights is Housing Authority of Washington County, 319 E. Antietam St, 2nd Floor, Hagerstown, MD 21740 – phone: 301-791-3168

New Business:

Crosswalk Issues @ Shafer Park Drive & Main Street & Orchard:

Chair Kim LaBrush stated Delegate Neil Parrott mentioned this at the public hearing meeting on Monday night. She suggested we ask him to help us secure crosswalk warning signals with SHA. Council member Kerns stated the Mayor & Council has been requesting flashing pedestrian cross walk signage at this intersection for years and SHA stated we were on the schedule and was to be done after or in conjunction with the crosswalk repairs at the square. She will ask the mayor for an update.

Member Rick Stevens brought up that he and other residents around the park received a letter stating Park Drive and Park View would be closed on September 4 for the Food Truck Event. Member Stevens stated the streets are not closed for Boonsboro Days, the carnival, Green Fest, etc. He suggests that they use more of the park for the event so the residents aren't as inconvenienced during the holiday weekend. Rick Stevens asked if council voted on this. Council Member Kerns stated she was unaware and did not recall discussing at Mayor & Council meeting. She will bring up at August workshop and send an email relaying the concern. Member Stevens stated that if the streets are to be closed, that they should put no parking in the spaces off McKeldin Drive to allow for visibility and two-way traffic as alternative route.

Boonsboro Police Department – Officer T. Ballesteros

Officer Ballesteros stated that there have been some complaints regarding scammers visiting door-to-door impersonating Xfinity/Comcast salespersons. He stated he spoke with Town Planner Reiley Stanley regarding an ordinance prohibiting door-to-door sales. She stated there was an ordinance drafted that was not implemented. There was discussion regarding drafting an ordinance or requiring a permit. Council member Kerns stated an ordinance would have to go thru Mayor & Council and have a public hearing and public vote. There was discussion that we wouldn't want to prohibit Boy Scouts selling popcorn and Girl Scouts selling cookies, etc. type activities – they could obtain a permit. The commission suggests the Town use social media and the newsletter to post about the scammers. It was also suggested that the email alert system could be used. Council member Kerns stated she would email staff and council about the time sensitive concern tonight. Chair LaBrush reminded their needs follow up for Speed Limit signs at Kinsey Heights – there are not enough. There was discussion about lowering speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph. Suggested BPD make recommendation regarding speed to Mayor & Council for vote. BPD can recommend to Public Works for additional speed limit signage in the Kinsey Heights development.

Boonsboro Fire Department Report – Kyle O’Connor

Kyle O’Connor stated he saw the Public Works crew painting red curbs and thanked town staff. He stated we still need follow up to get the No Turn on Red sign back up at the traffic light at the square off of St. Paul Street. He suggested the curbs be painted red and No Parking signage be installed on St. Paul Street from the Square to the Center Street intersection. Reminded that there are still delivery trucks impeding traffic flow delivering to downtown businesses and this is a safety hazard for emergency equipment responding. It was suggested that letters be sent to area businesses reminding them to instruct delivery drivers to park in marked spaces or lots only.

Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Company Report – Jay Metz

Jay Metz reported that the Rescue Company was requesting alert lights at the hill and Weiss intersections alerting when emergency vehicles were dispatched. The Rescue Company would like town support for this project.

This led to discussion regarding installation of warning signage for Fire Station, Ambulance Station, Police Station. Since signage would be placed on state highway the commission is unsure of the process. It was suggested one could be placed on Lakin Avenue for Fire Company to remind residents the ladder truck exists that way.

This led to discussion regarding shrubbery covering signage. Officer Ballesteros stated that weeds are blocking view of 30 mph Speed Limit sign on Maple Ave/Mapleville Road and asked in Public Works can trim. Member Harry Nogle stated that shrubbery at the corner of Potomac Street and King Road block the Stop sign visibility. Council member Kerns stated she would request Town Planner to inspect and see if town can ask property owner to address or if public works can address if in town right of way/easement area, not sure if this has to be County or State roads.

The issue of non-ADA accessible sidewalks on Potomac Street was mentioned.

Council Liaison Report – Marilee Kerns

Marilee Kerns reported she brought up the snow plowing of the Fire Company and Ambulance Company lots at the August Mayor & Council meeting. This will be discussed with Public Works Crew. BPD stated their lot needs better snow removal as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. by motion from Kyle O’Connor, second by Rick Stevens and commission consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilee Kerns