

Minutes
Public Safety Commission
Town of Boonsboro
January 18, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.
Boonsboro Town Hall Annex
21 North Main Street
Boonsboro, MD

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Liaison Marilee Kerns

Present: Harry Nogle, Kyle O'Connor – Boonsboro Volunteer Fire Department Representative (BVFD), Bo Quinn, Melanie Rowland - Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Representative, Marilee Kerns - Council Liaison

Absent: Robert Ecton, Teresa Leizear, Ena Bovell Martin, Rick Stevens, BPD Representative

Guests: none in attendance

Welcome & Introductions: New Member Melanie Rowland was introduced as the Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Representative. Current member introductions

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

Citizens Comments: none

Old Business:

Opticom Traffic Signal: No Update

Municipal Center: Liaison Kerns reported that there has been discussion with the developer and town regarding land for location of a Municipal Center. Representatives of the Fire Company & Ambulance Company said they have heard that some meetings have taken place.

Sycamore Run: Council Member Kerns stated she addressed the concern of Yield sign vs. Stop sign with the Town Planner. Town Planner Bowen reported back that both are acceptable – and suggested no change be made since the current signage has been established in the development. BVFD Representative Kyle O'Connor stated there are fire hydrants that need painted and red curbing in the development. Also stated that there are 1 or 2 new fire hydrants that need painted in the Crestview Development. The commission did express concern for snow plowing in Sycamore Run due to the narrow streets and curbside parking. Liaison Kerns stated she thought this is the first season the town has been responsible for snow plowing and will ask public works.

LifeVac: No update – BPD representative not in attendance

Parking Issue North Main Street: Council Member Kerns reported that Assistant Mayor Tony Nally had a conversation with SHA regarding this topic. He was told by our new area SHA representative that we could paint the curbs red. The mayor requested Nally get this in writing before the Town proceeds as this is new policy or practice. BVFD Representative requested the red curbing extend down through the intersection of North Main Street and Maple Avenue.

Safe Paths to School: Council Liaison Kerns reported that the feasibility study and plan is nearly complete. The study has not been presented to Mayor & Council for comments and approval. The next step after approval will be to secure funding for the project.

Additional old business was brought up regarding the shrubbery and bushes that hinder the view at the intersection of King Road and Potomac Street. This had been given to the previous planner. The Crest View residents have to pull out beyond the Stop sign for visibility to enter Potomac Street. There is concern that come spring the foliage will further impede the view. Council Liaison Kerns will bring the concern to the Town Planner.

New Business:

Commission Officers & Members: Council Liaison Kerns stated that Chair LaBrush has resigned. No one volunteered to become Chair. Ena Bovell Martin will remain acting chair since she is the current vice-chair. The topic will be addressed again at the February meeting. Liaison Kerns will reach out to member Rick Stevens to discuss his plans. The Boonsboro Ambulance and Rescue Service representative opening has been filled by Melanie Rowland. Council Liaison Kerns stated an email would be sent to members and posted on the Town Website if meetings were cancelled due to inclement weather.

Boonsboro Police Department – No report – No representative in attendance

Boonsboro Fire Department Report – Kyle O'Connor

Already noted concerns regarding some fire hydrants in the town; Concern of non-compliance of traffic stopping at the North Main Street and Orchard & Park Drive crosswalk even with the flashing lights. It was noted the flashing lights are not that visible in sunlight hours. Suggested the BPD surveil the crosswalk for motorist infractions.

Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Company Report – Melanie Rowland

The Rescue Company has experienced an increase in call volume of 26% from 2022 to 2023 and this trend is expected to continue as the area grows. 691 & 692 have 2 crews day time now and a goal of 2 crews night time. (currently night time not always covered by 2 crews) New ambulance has been delivered which gives more availability to equipment being kept on the road and allowing for maintenance of equipment. They are working on reducing call loss. A community resource committee has been formed and they are working hard on being more involved and present in the community. The outreach is showing promise. Participating in

events such as the CPR and Stop the Bleed classes, Prom Promise, San Mar Trunk & Treat, Career Days, Independence Day celebration and NNO.

Training Events for Stop the Bleed and CPR: There is a training event scheduled for Saturday, February 17 from 10-12. This is walk in classes open to the public at the Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Center. Council Member Kerns will forward office manager contact information to new member Melanie Rowland so the event can be shared on the Town Facebook page and website.

Council Liaison Report – Marilee Kerns

Kerns reported that Campus Drive new intersection is moving forward. Budgeting will be starting and the commission should be prepared to bring any special project ideas to the February meeting for budget discussion. The new town manager and planner are settling in.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. by motion from Kyle O'Connor, second by Bo Quinn and commission consensus.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 7:00 pm - Town Hall Annex

Respectfully submitted,

Marilee Kerns