

**Public Safety Commission
Meeting
20 March 2014**

The Public Safety Commission's (PSC) monthly meeting was held on Thursday, 20 March 2014 at 7:00 PM in the first floor conference room (former town library) of Town Hall. Present: Commission Chairperson Cindy Collier, Commission Members Bryan Hill, Terri Hollingshead and Marty Love. Also present PSC Council Liaison Sean Haardt of the Mayor and Council (M&C) and Police Chief Stanford of the Boonsboro Police Department (BPD). Guest: Captain Tommy Carter of the Boonsboro Ambulance and Rescue Services {henceforth Boonsboro Recue Company (BRC)} was also present. Late arrival with advance notice was Scott Stavrou who arrived at approximately 7:15 PM.

WELCOME:

Collier welcomed those in attendance and distributed March's meeting agenda, an initial draft for PSC Code Red Alert Recommendations to the M&C and a Zoning Map for the Town of Boonsboro. The map was to aid the PSC in the assigning of quadrants of the town for the PSC members to undertake the sidewalk and walkability study.

MINUTES:

Formal approval of 20 February 2014 PSC Minutes suspended till March's meeting due to lack of hard copies for review and approval. Copies were not printed for the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ongoing concern for the 1st Hose Company of Boonsboro (BFD) is the use of St. Paul Street just past the intersection with Main St. as an unloading area for deliveries to Dan's Restaurant and Tap House making it difficult for fire equipment to exit and enter area. Consensus was to formally approach management of Dan's to see if they would use the red marked areas in front of Dan's on Main St. as alternate delivery area. Motion by Hill second love to contact Dan's and motion carried. Possible future considerations could include posting of signage establishing the red curbed area for temporary truck use.

Haardt reported that the M&C has approved the staffing of town employee(s) to help at the Waste Pickup site from hours of 8 AM to 3PM on 3 May 2014 for the recognition of the National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day (NWCPD) nationally sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The PSC via Hill will compose advertisement for both the Town's website and Facebook page to promote event while Haardt checks on deadline for possible posting in the Town's next newsletter. Discussions by members of the PSC on who will be available to staff event, distribute literature and provide physical assistance. Query about the availability of Mike Schram of the BFD and his ability to secure additional literature to be handed out at the event. Haardt would investigate if one of the Town's large canopy tents could be available and set up for the event.

Haardt and Love reported on their initial finding while conducting a comprehensive study of certain sidewalks near town. An initial concern and question is the liability of residents for sunken sidewalks near possible leaking water mains and whether this falls upon the town to rectify. Haardt and Love used photos to documents sidewalk conditions with house and address in frame. Other members of PSC were given assignments and quadrants to study and survey. Haardt relayed that Council member Barb Wetzel believed that there was grant money available for fixing and expanding sidewalks.

Query by Haardt on distribution program of smoke detectors by BFD. Haardt believed that Hagerstown still has a distribution program in place. Hill responded that in past BFD did distribute detectors but due to higher costs of sealed lithium battery units (10 year models) this became cost prohibitive. Additionally, efficacy studies of ionization detectors dampened the program. Hill will check with Chief Griffith on the status of any other local programs or grants that could aid in reestablishing the distribution.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Stanford reported that he had been given literature and codes to study and gain access to the Town's Code Red System. There remains concern amongst the PSC that there is no established operating procedures for the Code Red System. The past major concern was the lack of input/control of Chief Stanford. Collier had composed a Recommendation Letter to forward to the M&C. However, after some discussion consensus was to postpone until Chief Stanford had more time to familiarize himself with system and for the PSC to work on more encompassing recommendations.

Continuing concerns about pedestrian (especially children) traffic crossing over Rt. 34 to South Mountain Little League fields (Monroe St.). There is believed to be excessive speeding and due to the grade of Monroe and curve in MD34 this creates dangerous conditions. Boonsboro Police Department (BPD) is aware of concerns and routinely patrols. Chief Stanford has made officers aware of problem. The Town of Boonsboro has requested that the SHA conduct a traffic survey to explore the possibility of establishing a crosswalk in area. The town can do nothing on its own owing to MD34 being a state road.

Additional discussion about pedestrian traffic crossing from parking lot behind Vestas Pizzeria and Family Restaurant to use the US Post Office or Boonsboro Creamery. This is seen as an enforcement issue due to the availability of crosswalks at nearby intersection of Main St and MD 34.

Additional concerns about traffic near the intersection of N. Main (Alt 40) and Maple (Rt. 66). Traffic travelling southbound on Main rides the shoulder area to avoid left turning traffic that is in the lane. Chief Stanford has expressed concerns to SHA and officers have been made aware of the issue.

MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORT:

Haardt reported that there had been some reappointments to the EDC. Also, that the Park board, Environmental Commission and EDC were trying to fund updated permanent signage for Shafer Park and a Welcome sign on entering the town. Captain Carter detailed some of the inner workings of the BRC's electronic sign. Captain Carter was queried on the availability of the BRC sign for advertising town events. The Town's Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for April 19th, Memorial Day Parade and Wreath Ceremony is May 25th and curbside bulk pick up is April 26th. Also a liquor "picnic" license has been approved for Shafer Park.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

No formal report by Chief Stanford.

FIRE & RESCUE REPORT:

Hill reported that a new Engine Tanker truck is on order to replace a damaged unit and that currently BFD is using loaner unit. The new unit will most likely be purchased from Pierce Manufacturing and may take in excess of a year before arrival.

Captain Tom Carter was in attendance at the meeting as part of an ongoing attempt by the PSC to have all pertinent entities properly represented at the PSC.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Hill, second by Stavrou to adjourn at 8:47 PM. Next PSC meeting to be held 17 April 2014 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Cindy Collier,
Public Safety Commission Chairperson