



CITY OF RICHMOND

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION RICHMOND'S CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON POLICING

MINUTES

HELD TUESDAY JUNE 26, 2001 AT 7:00 P.M.
Anderson Room 2.001
RICHMOND CITY HALL

In Attendance:

Mr. Fred Ursel (Acting Chair)
Mr. Gary Abrams
Ms. Colleen Chambers
Ms. Heather Courage
Mr. Brian Webster
Mr. Randall Wong

Absent:

Mr. Leo Lai
Mr. Jim Lavery, Chair
Mr. Mahmood Awan
Mr. Rick Henderson

Staff in Attendance:

Mr. Chuck Gale
Insp. Al. Speevak, RCMP
Insp. Tonia Enger, RCMP
Ms. Wendy Milford, Block Watch
Ms. Susan McBride, City of Richmond (Recorder)

1. Call to Order - Mr. Fred Ursel

2. Approval of Agenda B. Webster/C. Chambers

That the June 26, 2001 agenda of the Richmond's Citizens' Advisory Committee on Policing be approved.

CARRIED

3. Approval of May 29, 2001 Minutes

On page 3, item 7 bottom line should read Vision of Community Safety and not Division of Community Safety.

Page 2, last item, should be deleted and replaced with "Mr. Ursel wants/wishes to be proactive and make certain that ethnic harmony is promoted and maintained and that we respond appropriately to the ethnic diversity in our city."

Page 5, item 9 Evaluation, the first sentence should read "a meeting took place between Parissa Aujla, Manager, Finance and Administration – RCMP, three members of the Police Advisory Committee and other persons."

Page 5, item 10, third line should read "brought forward for consideration by Council" instead of for approval by Council.

C. Chambers/B. Webster

That the minutes of the May 29, 2001 meeting of the Richmond's Citizens' Advisory Committee on Policing be approved as amended.

CARRIED

4. Delegations

Wendy Milford, Block Watch Coordinator, introduced herself to the committee.

5. Feedback from Committee members on policing/public safety concerns

- Ms. Chambers thanked Insp. Speevak, on behalf of the Committee, for his work throughout the last six months. The new OIC will be at the next meeting.
- Mr. Wong reported that a tenant of his was at the Terra Nova bank machine and two people distracted him and switched his bank card. They took \$900 out of his Visa and bank account.
- Mr. Wong mentioned that although there is enforcement on Cambie Road it might be better to have the enforcement as people come off the freeway. Insp. Speevak will pass this on to Traffic Section.
- Mr. Webster complimented the police on their handling of an incident on 2nd Avenue. He said the involvement of the community was phenomenal with 20 – 25 people coming to the aid of the woman who had been shot.
- Mr. Webster asked about the bomb threats against a school phoned in from a bank of pay phones at Richmond Centre and Insp. Speevak said the student who made the threats had been apprehended.
- Mr. Wong said he asked two members which is the rookie and found out the experienced member had only 8 months service. Insp. Enger said trainers have at least two years service, probably this member jumped in the car to help out.
- Mr. Ursel asked if the bike squad was going to be available for the summer months because he really missed the squad at Garry Point Park. Insp. Enger said there are two bikes at each community station and they are just getting up and running.

6. Committee Ongoing/Upcoming Projects

Item 8 – There was discussion on what was meant by federal funding and it was decided to change the wording to other level funding.

Mr. Webster asked why the workshop he spoke about at the last meeting was not on the list and Chuck said he will find out what the intention of the workshop was from George Duncan and bring back an answer to the next meeting.

Item 11 – Mr. Webster said this item referred to a specific incident and can be struck from the list now.

Item 1 – There was discussion on the RCMP wish list. Some money has already been donated and has been passed to the City to put in a Donation account. Insp. Speevak said ICBC had been donating money to buy radar sets, etc. and with the change in government this may not be happening any more and there will be a need for additional items that we may have taken for granted. Mr. Gale said he will put a report together with a process for spending the money, setting priorities, etc. and will bring it forward as a report, if the committee is happy with it it can be forwarded to the Community Safety Committee. Ms. Chambers suggested Mr. Gale look at the Friends of the Library and see how they operate. Inspector Speevak said it would be good experience for new supervisors to come to the committee to make a presentation on the items they want. Mr. Gale will draft what he thinks he has heard and will e-mail the draft to the committee members.

Ms. Chambers suggested next meeting this item might be more appropriately placed nearer the end of the agenda and the committee agreed.

6a. Formation of Sub-Committee for Block Watch (Mahmood Awan, Colleen Chambers and Fred Ursel)

Ms. Milford, of Block Watch, gave an overview of the goals and objectives for Block Watch over the next three months. Inspector Speevak said he thought the sub-committee's role would be one of working with Wendy to put together a five year plan and at the end of the day this committee could report back to the Community Safety Committee on the plan. Insp. Speevak read out some excerpts from the consultant's report on Block Watch and Ms. Chambers asked if a City employee could assist the sub-committee in setting up the five year plan.

7. General Manager, Community Safety Division Update

Visioning – I have an outstanding issue to develop a vision for Community Safety and will work with senior staff of the Division, the Fire Chief, OIC RCMP, By-Law Manager and Suzanne Bycraft and we will rough out a plan and then go through a process to get validation from the stakeholders. We are having a meeting in a couple of weeks time and will let you know how it is going. I would like to have this ready to go when the Committee is ready to do business.

CACP Terms of Reference - I have been working on making amendments to Al's report and will get that to the Committee by the next meeting in printed form and will not take it forward until the committee has signed off on it.

Community Consultative Groups – I am advised that they are starting up again and are meeting on July 10th. The target is to work with South Arm Community Centre and have it up and running by October.

Policing Study – Handouts were passed out and Mr. Gale gave an overview.

Outcome of budget process – The budget process is complete. In a nutshell the Detachment was asked to reduce their expenditure by \$420,000. They developed a plan to do that and it would appear they are able to do that. There is a likelihood we will have an equivalent year next year but I am hoping we can make a case that won't see us having to save the same amount. At this point in time it would appear we will make the target for this year. The committee discussed the \$420,000 and the fact that it comes from vacancies and long term medical leaves at the Detachment.

Youth Intervention Program – A third party will be hired to conduct a review of the program. We will be starting the process to identify an appropriate person or persons to do the review and will keep the Committee posted on the outcome of that.

The Finance and Administration Manager at the RCMP, Parissa Aujla, is taking a medical leave for about a month and Mike Mack, Manager for Finance and Admin. for the Division is holding the fort down in the meantime.

As you know Inspector Speevak is going to retire and as of today I have initiated the process to replace him.

8. RCMP Update

RCMP Monthly Update – March 2001 – Insp. Speevak asked if there were any questions arising from the monthly report. Mr. Gale said this report may be changed to a quarterly report. Mr. Ursel remarked from reading this report you can see how big the City is getting.

Insp. Speevak gave an update on an incident that happened in the last month due to the road racing phenomenon. A task force has been set up and Richmond is contributing one member to the team and we hope it will curb things as we come into the hot summer months.

There was an interesting thing that happened at the airport, a Cathay Pacific flight came in with a box that contained Hepatitis C and the box was moist. Information was obtained from Health Canada that this was not an airborne substance but it was a biological hazard. Apparently this is transported all the time but this was not transported appropriately. Transport Canada are going to do an investigation on this.

612 plants were discovered in a grow up taken by General Duty on June 22nd and also this weekend we had an attempted murder shooting at a domestic situation.

Status of Vacancies and Cost Savings – We have saved \$230,00 so far by the end of May.

9. Sub-Committee Project Updates

Public Relations

- Mr. Webster said he would be in touch with Mr. Gale regarding pamphlets and will be distributing them over the summer months.

Evaluation

- Mr. Abrams said the sub-committee on the Youth Intervention Program is suspended. On June 4th Mr. Abrams received a copy of the terms of reference and would not mind talking to the reviewer and maybe some other members of our sub-committee would be happy to do the same thing. He would prefer having the opportunity to make comments during the review process rather than at the end. Mr. Wong said the original evaluation was also on restorative justice but these terms of reference make very minor mention of that. Mr. Gale said we expect the person doing the review will have knowledge of this business that is the way I hope to make sure the terms of reference do make sense. I appreciate your offer to participate Gary, and we will take you up on that. Insp. Speevak then gave an overview of where Restorative Justice is at in B.C. He said one of the evaluations of the program is a cost benefit analysis. and they can check what percentage of YIP went on to reoffend and ended up in court, that is the reason to look at youth court data.

10. Discussion on holding a social function in August (Colleen Chambers)

Ms. Chambers suggested having a social in August and the committee agreed. The social will be at Debeck House which Mr. Gale can arrange to book and will be held on either August 11th or 18th. Ms. Chambers will contact everyone about this.

11. RGMP Briefing to Community Safety Committee

Insp. Speevak gave the presentation originally given to Community Safety Committee.

12. Date of Next Meeting

7:00 p.m. August 28, 2001, City Hall, Anderson room.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

**Certified a true and correct copy of the
Minutes of the meeting of Richmond's
Citizens' Advisory Committee on Policing
Held on Tuesday, June 26, 2001**

Fred Ursel, Acting Chair

Susan McBride (Recorder)