

City of Eugene POLICE COMMISSION



The Police Commission recommends to the City Council, City Manager, police department, and the people, the resources, preferred policing alternatives, policies, and citizen responsibilities needed to achieve a safe community. We strive to create a climate of mutual respect and partnership between the community and the police department that helps to achieve safety, justice and freedom for all people in Eugene.

Outreach and Resource Committee Members: Joe Tyndall, Chair; Tamara Miller, Vice Chair; Jim Garner

Outreach & Resource Committee Eugene Police Commission

5:30 PM April 4, 2013
Bascom Room-1st floor
Eugene Public Library
100 W 10th, Eugene

Staff Contact: Carter Hawley, 541-682-5852

Starting Time	Item (Minutes)	
5:30	Agenda, approval of minutes, material review	5
5:35	Public comment	10
5:45	Anonymous Survey Discussion	15
6:00	Substitute for forum at University of Oregon	15
6:30	State of Public Safety Forum	30
6:45	Community Dialogue and Member Closing Comments	15

Upcoming Meeting: Thursday, May 2, 2013

Outreach & Resources Committee

Eugene Police Commission

Note: Meeting is available on audio tape. These notes represent only the basic information captured at the meeting per public meetings law. A copy of the audio recording can be purchased by contacting the Police Commission Analyst at 541-682-5852.

Meeting Date: March 7, 2013

Members Present: James Garner, Joe Tyndall (Chair), Tamara Miller (Vice Chair)

Members Absent: Kaitlyn Lange

Agenda & Material Review: Mr. Tyndall reviewed agenda and packet materials.

Public Comment: Deb Frisch – Spoke about the Police Commission’s police department survey the committee is working on. Ms. Frisch expressed concern that this committee is talking about a police department survey in which we are asking the police union or police officers what they know or what they think about the Police Commission. Ms. Frisch said that she think the University of Oregon gets way too much attention in terms of outreach, including this committee’s goal to hold a UO student forum. She feels that today’s meeting packet materials mostly focused on the student population, when this item is the least important on the agenda. Ms. Frisch also stated that she has observed that Chief Kerns responds more in Police Commission meetings to public comments than Police Commission members and we could take a note from him in this regard.

Mary Salinas spoke about the sex slave trade in Eugene. She states that Eugene is well known as a place where this trade is well known and prevalent. Ms. Salinas stated that this week the police are photographing the homeless and harassing the homeless.

Minutes Approval: Meeting minutes from 2/7/13 were approved unanimously.

Anonymous Survey Discussion: Ms. Miller and Ms. Lange have been in contact with the police union president, but were unsuccessful with scheduling a date to meet by the March 1, 2013 target date set by this committee. It is not necessary to meet with police union representatives prior to placing the anonymous survey in EPD common area locations, but it was the goal of this committee to share the survey with police union representatives and try to get their buy- in in advance. The committee reviewed the anonymous police survey questions. Ms. Miller suggested that Question #5 regarding support of the police department be removed, and that Question #1 be reworded to make it clear that the charge of the Police Commission is to provide input on police policies and procedures that reflect community values. Mr. Garner commented that the question about increasing communication and trust with the community was a good question to keep in the survey. Mr. Tyndall suggested that we perhaps could send the survey out to officers by email, or stuff their mailboxes with the survey. He also

wondered if we should do a suggestion box for officers. A motion was made by Mr. Garner and seconded by Mr. Tyndall to remove Question #5. Motion passed 3-0. Ms. Miller made a motion to reword question #1 to read: "Are you aware that the Police Commission provides input on police policies and procedures that reflect community values?" Mr. Garner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 3-0. The committee members reach consensus that the anonymous survey, revised as discussed, should be included in packet materials for the full Police Commission meeting next Thursday if possible.

Forum at the University of Oregon: Mr. Tyndall and Mr. Miller both attended the UO's forum on arming campus police on February 26th in the Fir Room in the EMU. There were approximately 50 folks in attendance, including what appeared to be students, faculty and community members. Mr. Tyndall and Ms. Miller talked about what they heard at the forum. The UO Police Department representatives made a short presentation about why they wish to have UOPD officers armed and handed out an information sheet. Tamara will ask Carter to include this sheet in one of her Friday updates. The point was made during the discussion that up until just a couple of years ago, EPD was contracted with the UO to provide police services on campus, which services were performed by armed EPD officers. This contract ended when UO started on the path to creating a formal campus police department of their own, but EPD officers still respond to and investigate certain types of crimes on the UO campus, as UOPD does not respond to certain calls or investigate certain crimes themselves because their officers are not armed. Several of the students in attendance expressed concern about having UOPD officers armed and guns on the UO campus. Please find additional information at: around.uoregon.edu/campus-policing and comments can be submitted via email to campuspolicing@uoregon.edu

The committee reviewed the materials they received from the EPD Crime Prevention team. Crime Preventions has used or uses some of the materials in the meeting packet in their outreach efforts to inform students about how to protect their property or reduce crime. The Crime Prevention program manager Debbie Janecek stated that they have tried multiple avenues for contact with the UO student population, including staffing booths, providing flyers and brochures, going door to door, email, etc. While very staff intensive, they found that it was most effective when they have the opportunity to have a conversation with someone. Mr. Tyndall suggested that we maybe think about doing a YouTube video to get our message out to the UO student population, and that we send out a link to the video in conjunction with the Crime Prevention team communications. We need to find out about whether the Crime Prevention team is still emailing items out to students and whether we would be able to include a link in an all-student email. Items we said we previously wanted to include in a UO student forum or communication were about the Eugene police auditor and complaint process and information about party patrol and maybe DUII. Joe will take the suggestion regarding creating a YouTube video to the full commission in our meeting next week as part of his Outreach and Resource Committee agenda item.

State of Public Safety Forum: Mr. Tyndall spoke to representatives at St. Mary's church about using their parking lot for event parking when we hold the State of Public Safety forum at the Eugene Public Library. The only date that was available for both St. Mary's and the Eugene Public Library in May was

May 15th, which the committee members thought was too soon for planning this forum and that we should look at June dates. The Library will only allow booking 90 days out. Ms. Miller made a motion to authorize Mr. Tyndall to book the Library and St. Mary's church parking lot in June, when there is an available date for both locations which meets the previously established criteria of a date on a weekday from 6-8 PM. Mr. Garner seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. When Mr. Tyndall has booked a date, he will communicate the date to Police Commission Analyst Carter Hawley.

The committee members reviewed the list of possible panel members to include in the State of Public Safety forum that had been created in a previous meeting. The committee members agreed that the forum would ideally have six panel members. After discussion, the committee members agreed that the following individuals or representatives would be asked to participate in this event: Eugene Police Chief Pete Kerns, a representative from the County Sheriff's department that can speak about the jail beds and County law enforcement, Eugene Police Auditor Mark Gissiner, a Municipal Court judge. Mr. Tyndall suggested an advocate for the homeless population be included on the panel and suggested community activist Allie Valkyrie. The committee members asked for suggestions from the members of the public present at the meeting. Suggestions from members of the public included a representative from St. Vincent de Paul to speak about the state of public safety and the homeless population as they coordinate the Egan warming center program as well as car camping on private properties and are involved in housing programs for the homeless population, and that a representative from the District Attorney's office or Eugene City Prosecutor's office be included that can speak about prioritizing crime prosecution given decreasing resources.

Ms. Miller made a motion to include a representative from St. Vincent de Paul on the panel, Mr. Garner seconded. The motion passed 2-1 with Mr. Tyndall voting No. Mr. Garner made a motion to include someone from the District Attorney's office or the City Prosecutor's office. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 3-0. If the selected panel participants are not available, the committee members will select someone else from this list: City of Eugene representative who can speak about the effect of passing/failure of city ballot measures; a representative from Eugene Fire & Emergency; a representative from PeaceHealth who can speak about the emergency department/behavioral health; Sgt. Lisa Barrong or other representative from EPD Crime Prevention; and, a representative from Cahoots or WhiteBird.

The committee has not made a final decision on the forum event format, as we would like to hear from committee member Ms. Lange. The current thought of the committee members is to use the first hour for panel member introductions and presentations and use the second hour for Q&A. The first hour may be formatted as introductions, then time for each speaker to speak on/present on the state of public safety from their perspective, and then a portion for seed questions to each panel member. The second hour would be Q&A period based on written questions from the audience selected by facilitator. Questions from the audience would be written on index cards and picked up by runners. Audience questions would be hung up on a board after a question is asked. No tables.

Ms. Miller made a motion to extend the time of the meeting to allow for the Community Dialogue portion of the meeting to take place. Mr. Garner seconded. The motion passed unanimously 3-0.

Community Dialogue and Member Closing Comments. Deb Frisch appreciated being asked about her suggestion on the participants for the State of Public Safety forum panel. Mary Salinas spoke about safe shelter for the homeless. Deb Frisch commented that many folks go to the City Council meetings to speak about homeless issues, and yet all of the City Council has done is designate property on Garfield for a homeless camp, and approve Conestoga huts, which cost \$900 each, and not very many of them have been purchased. Mr. Tyndall does not feel these huts are the answer and that they are safe. Ms. Miller suggested that the article that Mr. Tyndall forwarded about the homeless housing program in Salt Lake City, Utah regarding a program for housing the homeless population in Salt Lake and how well it is working could perhaps hold some suggestions for our community. Mr. Miller is interested in finding out more about that program, how it works and how it was funded, why are we “reinventing the wheel” when there are programs out there that have worked and do work. Ms. Salinas spoke about a program in Grand Junction, CO that she worked on. Ms. Frisch commented that she is glad that the Police Commission is talking about and is interested in the issue of homelessness and its impact on the community. She commented that she felt the police did a very good job with Occupy Eugene, better than some other communities. Mr. Tyndall suggested that Portland and Seattle have housing for the homeless programs that work as well, and that the contribution that is needed from government is a contribution of land.

Meeting adjourned 7:19 PM

Next Meeting: April 4, 2013, 5:30 PM

Meeting minutes taken by Police Commissioner Tamara Miller



Eugene Police Commission

300 Country Club Road
Eugene, OR 97401
541-682-5852

Below are six questions that will help the Police Commission gauge its effectiveness and the perception of its effectiveness within the Eugene Police Department. Your responses will be strictly confidential. Please complete the survey, print out and return to Carter Hawley, Police Analyst. Alternatively, you can complete a survey online at:

Background

The Mission of the Eugene Police Commission is to recommend to the City Council, the City Manager, the Police Department, and the people, the resources, preferred policing alternatives, policies and citizens' responsibilities needed to achieve a safe community. The Commission strives to create a climate of mutual respect and partnership between the community and the Police Department that helps achieve safety, justice and freedom for all people in Eugene.

1. Are you aware that the Police Commission provides input on police policies and procedures that reflect community values?
2. How long have you worked for the department?
3. Do you believe citizen input is beneficial in policy review?
4. Among the policies the Police Commission has reviewed, it recently reviewed the Pepper Spray Policy, and Vehicle Pursuit Policy, which have been implemented by the Department. What changes affected you? How?
5. What do you feel is the greatest public safety concern in the community?
6. How can the Police Commission increase communication understanding and trust between EPD and Community?