

CPSC Attending:

Betty Brickson
Amy Donaldson
Kris Henning
Marcy Hunt
Clint Culpepper
Willie Halliburton

Heather Randol
Marcus Sis
Nicole Morris
Stephen Percy
Carmen Suarez

CPSC Absent:

Leia Hertel
Sheena Ino
Sunny Hatch
Robert Winthrop
Michelle Holiday
Keith Kaufman

CPSC Staff:

Mark Wubbold

Guests:
Phil Zerzan

Campus Public Safety Committee (CPSC) - May 17, 2016

Convened: 2:05 pm

Topic: Welcome and Introductions

Topic: Review of meeting notes from 4/29 meeting.

Action: The meeting notes were approved without revision and are ready for posting to the CPSC website.

Topic: Campus Public Safety Office Update (Chief Zerzan)

Discussion: Chief Zerzan shared CPSO's arrest data for the dates February to May, 2016. With the arrests of several active burglars, the number of car break-ins decreased from 19 in February to 1 in May. CPSO continues to make progress implementing its training and staffing plan; two officers will be attending the police academy this summer. The 45th Annual Naimuma Pow Wow was held in the Peter Stott Center the end of April. CPSO officers responded to a call from a Pow Wow participant, asking them to enforce a restraining order. The victim was very appreciative of how CPSO officers handled the situation and wrote a letter of commendation thanking them.

Action: Chief Zerzan to send staff the email comment from Pow Wow participant for posting to the CPSC's public comment archive.

Topic: Review and Comment on Proposed Change to CPSO Policy

Discussion: Chief Zerzan proposed a change to CPSO *Policy 100 - Law Enforcement Authority* (See Appendices to these notes for explanatory Memo,

Current and Proposed new Policy). The policy change is intended to “provide clarity and direction as the roles of Campus Police Officer and Campus Public Safety Officer become defined.” Under the current policy, Campus Public Safety Officers are allowed to exercise “limited Police Authority without the training, certification or equipment.” The new policy would change the authorities of public safety officers, limiting them to “preventative patrol[ing] and respond[ing] to calls for service that do not require law enforcement authority.” Chief Zerzan’s intention is to have the new policy in place by July 1, 2016.

Policy Discussion: CPSC members asked Chief Zerzan a series of clarifying questions. They wanted to understand how the new policy was likely to affect campus safety and policing.

Q. What are the downsides to removing arrest authority from non-sworn CPSO officers?

A. There are none. The current policy puts non-sworn officers at risk by allowing them to do police work they are not trained or equipped to do safely.

Q. PSU does not have enough sworn officers to provide 24/7 coverage, will relying on sworn police to make arrests create a gap in campus coverage?

A. Yes. However, the Portland Police Department has been informed of this possible policy change and is prepared to respond to calls requiring sworn officers during the non-peak, 11pm to 7am hours.

Q. What is the timeframe that will get PSU to 24/7 coverage by sworn police officers?

A. We hope to be fully staffed, and to have enough sworn officers to provide 24 hour coverage by the end of the next fiscal year.

Q. Will there be new guidelines for how non-sworn public safety officers are expected to respond to potentially dangerous situations?

A. These guidelines are already part of the training program for non-sworn public safety officers.

Q. Since non-sworn officers no longer have the same arrest responsibilities (paperwork, detention, driving those arrested to PPD...etc) we assume they will have time for other activities; what will those activities be?

A. Non-sworn public safety officers, will still respond to service calls. Without policing responsibilities, they will have more time to do the work they are trained and equipped for: patrolling and reporting.

Action: The Chair asked for a motion stating that the CPSC had seen and discussed any concerns they might have with the policy and were prepared to support it...or not.

Motion: The motion that follows was made and seconded: *The CPSC has reviewed the proposed policy change and recommends that CPSO move forward with implementing the new policy as of July 1, 2016.*

Vote: Having a quorum, the CPSC voted on the motion. It was unanimously approved. The new policy will take effect July 1, 2016.

Topic: CPSC Role in Dialogue with Concerned Students

Discussion: The CPSC wishes to explore options for engaging the PSU community in an ongoing conversation about campus safety and the work of CPSO. There have been some recent opportunities to do so (Officers Halliburton shared a story about a two hour dialogue he had with students in one of the housing facilities).

CPSC acknowledged that while targeted dialogue is helpful, the committee has a responsibility to facilitate dialogue with the general student population as well.

CPSC members pointed out that this goal could perhaps be facilitated if there was broader student representation on the committee itself and that a special effort should be made to include the voices of students who are not supportive of PSU having a sworn and armed police force.

CPSC members and guests revisited some of the eight year history of the efforts - both for, and against -- that led to the Board's resolution to form a sworn and armed police force.

Since the Board's resolution is now in place, the general consensus of the CPSC was to stay focused on communicating with students about how they can help PSU develop the best campus police force possible.

To this end, it was suggested that CPSC host quarterly open forums to gather student feedback on campus safety issues. This will enable CPSC to engage more students in the process and hear more of their voices, which is the CPSC's first priority.

Other communication strategies were discussed such as listening sessions, mining the recently completed Title IX survey for student perspectives on campus safety, and adding campus safety questions to the Campus Climate survey that is being planned for next year.

The idea that generated the most enthusiasm was an open “breaking bread” and listening session with students in the fall that would be hosted by the CPSC. Global Diversity and Inclusion volunteered to provide pizza for the event.

Agenda Item for the Next Meeting: As the meeting came to a close, a CPSC member asked if there was a list of priorities and specific issues the committee should be considering going forward. The Chair said this topic would be added as a discussion item to the agenda for the 6/3 meeting.

Adjourned: 3:30 pm