

Town of Chester

Citizen Advisory Committee

August 15, 2023

6:30 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Staff Present: Roy, Wendi, Vince & Frank

Visitors Present: Alicia (Admin) Greg (new officer)

Approve 07.18.23 Minutes - Motion to accept Roy, Seconded Vincent

Purpose & Goals - Frank read the goals for questions and comments. Maintaining data was brought up in light of Sams resignation.

Committee member resignation - A post has been put out to look for new applicants. We should all talk about the opportunity with the people we know. Julie will reach out to Sam to see what data she had collected.

Other - Add times to the agenda for next month.

Citizen's Comments -

- The Flood Was BUSY!!
- PD will come up with formalized plans for responding to different problems, utilization of the CERT team in other emergency situations, how can businesses help?
- There may be grant funds for the training of CERT and businesses.
- The legion would like to become a shelter in cases of emergency.
- There are no buildings in town that meet FEMA standards to be a FEMA shelter.

Sub-Committee Updates:

- Citizen Input Form - Share it with the CERT team.

Interview and Personnel:

- Two applicants to interview. All committee members are willing to help if desired.

Communication:

- Wendi will create a Facebook page for our committee.

Community Watch:

- Wendi asked for a breakdown of the Green Up territories and the quadrants that Tom set up for his report to Jim Baker. She would also like help from the committee to identify the "movers and shakers" from the different area. Frank will get the document from Tom and populate the green up areas and contact people.

Policy Review Process:

- False Alarm Policy: Review, Discussion, and Decision
- No changes from last meeting
- Julie suggested we attend the selectboard meeting when the protocol is presented September 20th

Policies for the next discussion:

- Fair and impartial policing

- Use of force
- Put the policies we are reviewing on our FB page and speak about how officers are trained to them.
- "Chester Police Department is not responsible for the sentencing of these people"
- Attorney General has a form that people can go to with comments about policies or people can go to their local legislators with questions or complaints.

Other items:

- How can we appreciate town employees can be appreciated.
- CERT - what would our training be? What are the specific requirements for training for the need. Create the policy, which would go to the selectboard for approval. Discussion needed around the CERT team being their own entity, an entity of the town, an entity of the PD.
- Put together a survey about the flood to get input from community members about what worked, what didn't...what problems were specific to different areas?
- Fall festival, we could have a booth and ask people to fill out paper surveys and give them access to online survey. Julie will check with the Fall Festival Committee to see if there is space.
- Aug 1st, Tom wants us to be present at the National Night Out (Police Event). Maybe make it more of an "event" next year.

Next Agenda: (September 12, 2023 meeting)

- Talk about changing the Tuesday that we meet to the second Tuesday.

Motion to adjourn Roy, second Vince 7:46

Respectfully Submitted,
Wendi Lashua Germain
Secretary Chester Advisory Committee.