

Town of Chester
Citizen Advisory Committee
July 18, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Board Members Present: Wendi, Frank, Roy

Staff Present: Adam

Visitors Present:

- **Organization:** Meeting to order 6:39pm
 - Acknowledgement of the work Chester PD has done in response to the previous flooding. Not forgetting the town crew, thank you!
 - Next meeting think about putting timeframes on the agenda.
- **Review agenda.**
- **Other organizational items -**
- **Approve 06.20.23 Minutes**
 - Motion to approve, Roy, seconded Wendi passed unanimously
- **Review Robert's Rules of Order for Small Boards (as needed)**
- **Purpose and Goals Discussion (as needed)**
- **Other?**
- **Citizen's Comments:**
- **Citizen's Comments and/ or Input**
- **Sub-Committee Updates:**
- **Citizen Input Form (draft).**
 - Community Input Form - trying to keep the form neutral instead of leaning towards negative.
 - Goal to track positive and negative feedback from citizens.
 - "For further interaction we suggest you share your name" We will acknowledge the input within three working days.
 - Adam is working on a policy that addresses how to present accolades for officers.
 - Frank is willing to have the surveys come to him for response.
 - ** Next month's agenda follow up on the survey to get input from town staff and other advisory committee members.
 - Start sending minutes to: adam.woodell@vermont.gov
- **Interview and Personnel: Frank**
 - Frank will touch base with Tom on applicants and schedule interviews
- **Policy Review: (see below)**
- **Data Analysis: Sam**
- **Communication: Sam**
- **Communication Protocol: Discussion and Decision**
- **Community Awareness: Wendi**
 - Community Watch: Discussion
 - Tabled until next meeting. Maybe look at Green Up day cluster of areas to help divide up the town for neighborhood watch programs.
 - A positive way to share information between community members (salamanders, turtles, norther lights)
- **CAC Policy Review Protocol:**

- **Policy Review Protocol: Discussion**
 - **Policy Review Process: Roy and Vince**
 - **False Alarm Policy: Review, Discussion, and Decision & Policies for the next discussion in 2023**
 - Things have been busy for the PD; we are looking for the next policy to review.
 - How will the alarm policy be enforced? Is it a ticket or attached to taxes? Adam suggested it may be via the Vermont Municipal Violation Complaint which goes to the Judicial Bureau for permission to write a ticket. If people don't pay the ticket will default to the highest \$\$ which is believed to be \$1200.
 - People would have to register their alarms to have the police respond.
 - Still a goal of revising one policy per month but hoping to do more.
 - **Other items:**
 - Horseshoe acers had 12-13 water rescues. Evacuation of people on 103, ended up being water rescues. Gingerbread apartments flooded out, Sunoco, Jiffy mart lots of mud. Swift water rescues, lots of fire alarms going off, some hazmat stuff with propane tanks, oil spill, responded to Ludlow a couple of times before Chester was hit more, good radio system and communication, admin assistant was a great help she kept track of road closings and people who needed to be checked on. Everything we have been working on for the past year has come into play.
 - How can the community best thank the first responders who have worked so hard? Maybe have an appreciation ceremony at the town hall or the legion to recognize the accomplishments of the first responders. The Fire Department has done this yearly but did not include the PD as much and it has not traditionally been open to the public, but this might be a nice touch. OR something at the Fall Festival?? Could this work with all the firefighters cooking burgers? Out by the cannon.
 - Chester officers will be getting dress blues donated by the Legion Auxiliary. Photo op... PD and Fire department all in their dress blues.
 - How can the road crew be recognized? Maybe at least a shirt? 8 to 10 on the road crew.
 - Adam would like the opportunity to build relationships with the businesses in town without the first-time approach being when he is asking for something.
 - Currently looking for a rowing machine (Concept 2)
 - Next Meeting: August 15, 2023, meeting
- The motion to adjourn Roy 7:31 seconded Wendi passed unanimously.