

August 9, 2018 APPROVED MINUTES

Public Health and Safety Committee

1. Called to Order at 7:05 pm.
2. Roll Call: Members present – Trustee Scott Friedman, Josh Sotos, Tim Crisp, Bill Muehl, Jim Rogers, Jeremy Tunis; Staff Present – Police Chief Aaron Chapin; Excused – Cara Silverman; Public – Cheryl Wittke, Safe Communities.
3. Noted compliance with open meetings law.
4. Bill Muehl moved approval of prior meeting minutes (April 2018). Tim Crisp seconded. All in favor, 5-0; Trustee Friedman abstaining.
5. Discussion regarding becoming a member of Safe Communities. Chief Chapin is on the Safe Communities board. Safe Communities focuses on (i) drug and overdose prevention (with use of “recovery coaches”); (ii) traffic safety (signs, etc.); (iii) falls/slips prevention (including classes); (iv) suicide prevention.

Chief Chapin further explained two new initiatives. First, if any law enforcement officer comes into contact with addict/person with addiction issues, he/she can push them to a recovery coach. Second, there is an opportunity for gun owners who feel depressed or suicidal to give up their gun to a gun shop for “maintenance” for 3 months.

Cheryl Wittke from Safe Communities further described to the PHS Committee how Safe Communities works. In response to concerns about costs, Cheryl Wittke said that any donation/support is appreciated. Tim Crisp also wondered if Karl could let us know what other programs the village partakes in.

Tim Crisp asked about prescription drug addiction, fraud prevention and coalitions that Safe Communities works with. On prescription drugs, Cheryl explained that we know opioid/heroin epidemic resulted from prescription drugs. Safe Communities is working to change prescribing practices from physicians, but also looking at other pain management (physical therapy, etc.). On fraud prevention, there are other programs, so Safe Communities promotes those rather than replicates.

Bill Muehl motion: With a continuing goal of supporting good quality of life for residents of Shorewood Hills, the PHS Committee recommends supporting the Safe Communities Coalition by becoming a Safe Communities member and making a contribution to Safe Communities appropriate to the size of the village and the village’s need for Safe Communities’ services. Tim Crisp seconded. All in favor, 6-0.

Discussion regarding addition of a Med-Drop box. Chief Chapin explained that this is part of the Safe Communities drug prevention program. There is a value to the community of having a med-drop box to fill gap – on a regular basis people try to go to Walgreens, who will not take the drugs, and get referred to us. But then we have to send them to Middleton, Madison or UW PD.

We have a med-drop box in the garage, but need to figure out how to make it so that only two employees can access it (together). Chief Chapin wants to avoid potential abuse that could occur if only one officer is able to take the drugs out of the box. Issue is cost of electronic key access. Body cameras would also be required to be worn when removing drugs from the box and security camera would be on.

A discussion followed on whether the village could have another entity pick up the drugs or at least help in some capacity.

Getting box up and operational would be Chief drafting policy, getting John to drill it into the wall (around the wall near the table inside the doors, available only when people are in the building).

Action items – we need the body cameras here, the policy drafted and implemented, and need to figure out the keys. Keywatcher would be \$7,000 (total cost of \$8,000ish) to store the two keys appropriately. Can we contract with someone for this to avoid cost? Boxes would be weighed and sealed with evidence tape in storage areas on camera.

Chief to do further research and also alert Karl to potential budget cost if we go that route.

6. Discussion and possible recommendation regarding joining restorative justice program. Principle of restoring harm rather than punitive action, with a focus on 18-25 year old offenders with non-violent offenses. Both the victim and offender and/or members of the community work together. The offender has to admit the harm and do something to repair the harm. The victim has some say in this restorative action.

To move forward, we need peacekeepers in the community. Looking to have support from the village to buy into and support.

Scott Friedman motion: PHS Committee recommends that the village board adopt a motion to join the Dane County Community Restorative court program, with appropriate village outreach to encourage involvement from the community in the process. Bill Muehl seconded. All in favor, 6-0.

7. Review and discussion of recent police activity reports. July slightly lower than June. Main item: non-residential burglary of a retail store. Nothing else really stood out.
8. Possible topics for next meeting: med-box drop; fire/EMS report; report back from board on action items.
9. Next meeting date and agenda items to be determined. First Monday of each month starting October 1 at 7:00 pm.
10. Adjourn.