

TOWN OF BLUFFTON
LAW ENFORCEMENT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, January 12, 2023

Members present: Michael Frazier, Bill O'Toole, George Baily, Jennifer Morrow, Reggie Howard, Mayra Rivera-Vazquez, Tabor Vaux

Members Not Present:

Staff Present: Chief Joe Babkiewicz, Captain Scott Chandler, Sergeant M. Ferrelli, and Sergeant Craig Karafa

Jennifer Morrow called the meeting to order at 18:00 hrs. at the Henry "Emmett" McCracken Council Chambers located at 20 Bridge Street, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments to be addressed at the meeting.

Old Business:

There was not any "old" business that needed to be addressed at the meeting

New Business:

- There was not any "new" business that needed to be addressed at the meeting.

Bluffton Police Department Update:

- Chief Babkiewicz provided the LECAC committee an update on the Bluffton Police Department.
- Chief Babkiewicz gave a brief introduction of himself and his goals and expectations for the department and committee moving forward.
- Packets were provided to each member containing stats and goals of the department along with strategic planning analysis moving forward. Chief Babkiewicz advised the committee that he would like them to please review the information contained within, and at the next meeting use the SWOT method to assist him in continuing to plan for the department's future goals.
- Chief Babkiewicz advised the committee that he would present them with an updated packet at each meeting going forward.
- Chief Babkiewicz advised the committee on the departments current staffing level, as well as new hires, and new recruits.
- Chief Babkiewicz advised the committee that he would like to hold the LECAC meetings once a month instead of every other month. The committee then voted to which all were in favor of holding the meetings every month.
- The question was raised about possibly adding some more members to the committee in the future.
- It was requested by the committee to receive the meeting minutes enough in advance for the next meeting.
- It was requested for the committee members to receive calendar invites for upcoming police and town events.

- Check with Kim Gammons to ensure all committee members email address are correct to ensure future correspondences are being received by the members.
- Gun locks are available at the police department and can be distributed to community members that may want them.
- Update on BCSD future school security procedures, as well as grant information for hiring additional SROs for the schools that do not have one assigned. This will ultimately depend on department staffing levels.
- Sgt. Karafa presented to the committee a brief overview of the Community Action Team roles and responsibilities
- Committee members were encouraged to attend / as well as help promote upcoming department / town community events.
- There was a mention of a possible new sub station being built somewhere in the New Riverside area due to the rapid growth in that part of town.

A motion to adjourn was made at 1841 hrs. and all members seconded the motion.

Per the guidelines set forth in the provisions the next monthly meeting will occur the second Thursday of the month. The next scheduled LECAC meeting would be on February 9th, 2023, at 1800hrs.

Sergeant Matt Ferrelli

Secretary