

Public Safety Advisory Committee
City of Greenbelt
Date/Time: June 5, 2018 7:05 p.m.
Greenbelt Community Center

ROLL CALL:

Committee Members Present: Stan Zirkin, Cindy Comproni, Dr. Laura Kressler, Eunice Pierre, Mary Thomas, Matthew Inzeo and William James.

Liaison(s) Present: Mary Johnson

Citizens Present: Theodora Scarato

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chair, Cindy Comproni

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May minutes approved with a suggested change by Stan Zirkin.

OLD BUSINESS:

AMAZON MAILBOX UPDATE - Cindy Comproni contacted the Manager of the Co-op about the possibility of putting an Amazon Drop Box in the Co-op. Mrs. Comproni has no update to report. Mrs. Comproni contacted Giant and was told it would be 6 weeks before they have an answer. She e-mailed Beltway Plaza. Mrs. Comproni asked why the City can't have a drop box. Eunice Pierre and Matt Inzeo stated due to liability issues. Mrs. Comproni suggested that it be placed inside a City facility and have set hours. Mrs. Comproni said she will contact Amazon about the requirements and check and see if you have to pay rent on the box. 7-11 has a drop off box. Old Greenbelt residents now have to go to the Safeway in Greenway Shopping Center. Mrs. Comproni will send Kap Kapastan an e-mail tomorrow.

CELL PHONES AND CELL TOWERS – Theodora Scarato talked to PSAC concerning cell phone radiation and clear evidence of cancer due to cell phone usage. Ms. Scarato stated that Council needs to have a proper presentation on the issue. Cell phone usage is comparable to asbestos, smoking and other health issues. Need to have copper lines back. 911 problems could be a 911 issue not a cell issue.

Mrs. Comproni stated the phone companies won't fix copper lines. Ms. Scarato stated by law they have to maintain the copper line. Ms. Scarato stated once they put in Wi-Fi they don't have to fix copper.

Mrs. Comproni stated that a cell tower on Northway had been requested years ago. Dr. Kressler stated Beverly Palau, Public Information & Communications Coordinator, asked for a tower. Verizon came out but her request never made it to an agenda. Mrs. Comproni stated that American Cancer society does not support Ms. Scarato's statements.

Eunice Pierre asked Ms. Scarato what are alternate solutions. Ms. Scarato stated that a proper assessment be done (get carriers to do a heat map). Ms. Scarato does not advocate for cell service but rather run DAS antennas.

Stan Zirkin asked Ms. Scarato to provide something in writing that PSAC can possibly address to Council.

Ms. Scarato stated don't put cell phones in bras and up to heads – radiation levels are raised. Ms. Scarato stated that the Cancer Institute is funded by wireless industry.

At the May 1st meeting, PSAC voted to write a letter to Council requesting a new cell tower. Dr. Kressler wrote the letter and it was approved. Dr. Kressler will forward maps from Open Signals.

NEW BUSINESS – GEAC Letter – Please see violent crimes map March 1, 2016 – May 28, 2018. The Greenbelt Police are looking into the GEAC letter. The GEAC letter states we need cameras in Schrom Hills Park and no new cameras in Roosevelt Center. Camera retention is now a 30 day history of video. Mrs. Comproni asked GEAC to come to tonight's meeting but didn't hear back from them. The first step in the process is to upgrade service infrastructure. The Vendor is looking at our current system.

Eunice Pierre would like to follow up on crime portion of the letter.

VAGRANCY – Stan Zirkin presented information concerning vagrancy and stated unless someone is disturbing the peace you have no right to disturb them. Matthew Inzeo stated there is a hotline for substance abuse, 24 hours per day mental counselors who work with the police and will come talk to the person with issues and a Mobile Crisis Team. Also have urgent care center and see people every 48 hours and do evaluations.

Cindy Comproni asked if we can post a sign that says "Park Closed at Dark".

More discussion to come at next meeting.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRS - The Advisory Committee Chairs are scheduled to meet on July 11th with Council.

PSAC MEETING - Reschedule meeting for July 3rd to July 10th.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – PSAC August meeting will be cancelled due to National Night Out.

PSAC Elections will be held soon.

LABOR DAY – There will be information concerning Amazon Lockers at the PSAC Booth. CERT/CART – Dr. Kressler will have a mini operating room, teddy bear clinic and stuffed animals clinic. Stock the booth with things, have scrubs and have kids come in to help.

Dr. Kressler will e-mail PSAC members about upcoming free trainings. Dr. Kressler stated there is an app for the phone "pulse point" which is a CPR app. If you know CPR, install the app on your phone and set to fire department. This app is in live time, if someone who is in need of help is near you, your phone will receive a notification and you can begin CPR/AED before the EMT's arrive. This app also shows where AED's exist. Dr. Kressler stated the Community Center doesn't have an AED.

The meeting adjourned 8:25

Next meeting is July 10th

Minutes submitted by Mary Johnson