

Fresno Police Department Chief's Advisory Board Minutes

September 24, 2009

Present: Kamal Abu-Shamsieh, Roz Clark, Fred Clark, Morgan Doizaki, James Evans, Paula Farris, Judy Holm, Pamela Kallsen, Jesse McDonald, Carol Mills, Edward Moreno, Jim Poptanich, Rebeca Rangel, Luke Raughley, Alicia Vasquez (for Enrique Reade)

Absent: Doug Broten, David Cowin, Tom Gentile, Harry Gill, Brian King, Kelly Nellum, Lorraine Person, Margarita Rocha, Mui Mindy Vuong, Don Weaver

Guests: Chief Jerry Dyer, Deputy Chief Pat Farmer, Lt. Don Gross, Sgt. Brian Rogers, Officer Martin van Overbeek, Officer Jason Calomiris

Call to Order:

The meeting, held in the City Hall Annex Training Room, was called to order at 5:45 pm.

Minutes:

Minutes from July 30, 2009 were approved without correction

Opening Remarks:

Group welcome and member self-introductions.

Agenda Items:

Updated Mission and Vision Statement

Chief Dyer: Discussed a key goal in the reorganization plan was to re-vitalize various areas within the agency to prevent stagnation. Reviewed the mission/vision statement and solicited feedback.

Clark: Feels it is a concise statement.

Holm: Agrees it is a partnership with the community.

Farris: Appreciated the values contained in the statement.

Mills: What was the need to expand on the mission statement?

Chief Dyer: Mission statement was changed to serve as a reminder and better define what it is we are doing as an agency.

Rangel: Were you going to expound on the statement, "with out community?"

Chief Dyer: Stated it has already started with Character & Communication training for officers and then all employees. The next part of this plan was with help from the Josephson Institute to include a questionnaire and program development. The third component includes getting members POST certified in providing cultural diversity training.

Evans: Suggested pre-retirement training to prevent issues such as PTSD, suicide, depression, etc.

Chief Dyer: Currently, a 4-hour block of training on such topics is provided for future retirees within 6 months to a year of retirement. Additionally, there are "logging off" ceremonies for officers on their last day at work.

Rangel: Mentioned a similar discussion 6 months prior related to getting retired officers to provide peer support for those about to retire. Proposed offering retiring officers jobs in a volunteer capacity at local organizations.

Chief Dyer: Added that officers can lose their sense or purpose/belonging when they leave police work.

Vasquez: Stated the same issues present after retirement can happen everywhere, even in ministry.

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Organizational Restructure

Chief Dyer: Reviewed the structure of the Professional Standards Division and importance of keeping key units under the oversight of one Deputy Chief.

Farris: Did you pattern this after other agencies?

Chief Dyer: Division was created to be proactive.

Sgt Rogers: Most agencies such as LAPD/Oakland PD do it as a result of a federal mandate. Our agency goes beyond their requirements and does it voluntarily.

Deputy Chief Farmer: Discussed the sixth bureau created in the Patrol Division to assist in oversight of field events. Added that Oakland PD has 25 sergeants assigned to Internal Affairs due to problems where we only have six.

Gun Buyback Program

Chief Dyer: In 2 ½ hours, 447 guns were turned in and \$35,000 of Target gift cards were issued. Of those guns, five were determined to have been stolen, three were donated to a museum, and two were kept for training. This was made possible by donations of \$7500 from the Chiefs Foundation, \$7500 from Crime Stoppers, \$15,000 from asset forfeitures, and \$5000 from Donaghy Sales. Additionally, Jeffrey Scott Advertising provided free services and the Fairgrounds allowed free use of the grounds to hold the event. In continued efforts to get guns out of the hands criminals, a gun bounty program will be started in the future with rewards given for information about persons possessing guns illegally. Crime Stoppers will put together a video to announce the program.

Evans: Think about using Hope Now for Youth possibly as a trailer for the Crime Stoppers video.

Moreno: Proposed a non-invasive survey when getting guns such as, "Are their kids in the home?"

Rangel: Expressed her opinion regarding the NRA's stance on gun buyback programs.

Chief Dyer: This issue will be addressed at the upcoming IACP meeting.

ROUND TABLE:

McDonald: What is the Mayor doing about the homeless who have moved to the Ventura/F Street area?

Doizaki: Has heard that other cities are telling their homeless residents to come to Fresno because they are going to be taken care of.

Clark/Poptanich: Will discuss with the Mayor tomorrow during a meeting.

Holm: Is there a residency requirement to receive assistance?

Kallsen: At least 75 persons have been relocated into housing.

Evans: Have you noticed ammunition shortages across the City?

Chief Dyer: It is happening nation wide as a result of the Presidential elections.

Mills: Commented on recent major awards ceremony.

Moreno: Discussed preventative measures for this flu season.

Holm: Inquired about the 'Every 15 minutes' program and was advised it is still in operation.

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Kallsen: Informed the group that Sgt Trobaugh was selected as one of ten business professionals that will be honored at an October 22 luncheon.

Closing Remarks:

None

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Next Meeting:

November 19, 2009