

Town of Boscawen
Police Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – Draft
June 24, 2020

Present: Chief Wyman, Bill Urbach – Chair, Kevin Sullivan, Mark Varney, Barbara Randall and Select Board Member Paul Dickey
Others: Kearsten O'Brien

Chair Urbach called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Chair Urbach read the Covid-19 Public Meeting Notice of Telephonic Meetings, which reads as follows: In light of the state of emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020, and to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the chair has determined that an emergency exists and that accordingly, until further notice, (a) members of the board may attend all board meetings telephonically, without the physical presence of a quorum; and (b) members of the public who wish to participate in hearings may, on request, participate telephonically or submit comments in writing to be included in the record of the hearing.

Roll call was completed by Barbara Randall

New Business:

Update on Officer Saint and Officer Chislett: They are in their last week of training and will receive national accreditation upon completion. They will attend a 5-week drug school at which point Officer Saint will be a Certified Drug Sniffing Dog and will be ready for full time work at the Boscawen Police Department.

On July 9th the entire police department (including Officer Saint) will have their pictures taken for the Town's website.

Advisory Board members were given copies of the Boscawen Police Use of Force Core Principles and their Bias-Free Policing policy. Chief Wyman explained these documents were all reevaluated and updated in 2018. These policies are reviewed on an annual basis and officers receive four hours of Use of Force training each year. This allows our police department to practice community policing using LEED (Listen and Explain with Equity and Dignity) to de-escalate a situation. Currently all officers are doing training via PoliceOne Academy (an accredited on-line training course.)

Chief Wyman informed the Board that his department is taking a proactive approach to reach out to members of the community, trying to use opportunities to educate the public, and looking forward to working with the students and staff at Boscawen Elementary when school reopens.

Chair Urbach asked if there was grant money available for body cameras. Chief Wyman replied that he is looking into it. Mark Varney asked if consideration has been given to request money in the next town budget for body cameras. Chief Wyman replied, yes, unless the state (hopefully) creates a mandate with funding. Select Board Member, Paul Dickey, suggested looking into the cost of the cameras, docking stations and cloud storage fees for the next budget.

Motion made to adjourn by Mark Varney at 6:28. Seconded by Paul Dickey. All in favor.