

Meeting Minutes

Public Safety Committee
Town of Durham, Connecticut

Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Durham Public Library – 7 Maple Avenue, Durham, Connecticut

1. **Call to Order:** 6:35 PM – Present were D. Murphy, W. Manemeit, M. Pearce, W. Smith, F. DeFelice
2. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:** Motion made and seconded to accept minutes of the previous meeting as distributed (M. Pearce / D. Murphy) – Unanimous.
3. **Crime Watch Update:** RST DiGioia was not in attendance to provide status update. As requested by the committee, F. DeFelice arranged to meet with Lieutenant of Troop F and L. Francis to discuss Crime Watch Program. Meeting cancelled due to illness (DeFelice) and will be rescheduled. F. DeFelice reported that he had spoken with Sargent Calvo on 6/2/09, and that Sargent Calvo mentioned that attendance at PSC meetings and other functions was typically done on overtime, and that this was a concern due to budget limitations. F. DeFelice reported that the town has Crime Watch signs; these will be installed by the town crew in two Crime Watch neighborhoods. B. Smith reported that he has been unable to obtaining information on Killingworth Crime Watch Program; but stated that he has been informed that the Killingworth Lion's Club (not the Killingworth RST) is in charge of their Crime Watch Program; however, flow of information from RST to Crime Watch Captains is limited; and that Killingworth is experiencing difficulties in the flow of information, similar to those reported in Durham. D. Murphy reported that a Durham resident contacted him regarding the limited availability of information (feedback) provided to residents in and around the neighborhoods which experience a criminal incident (e.g.: Burglary, Vandalism). D. Murphy recommends that Durham RST (DiGioia) generate a weekly activity report which could be printed in the local paper, placed on the town website under *Public Safety Updates*, and communicated to neighbors through the Crime Watch Program. The report could include a description of the incident, with sufficient detail to alert neighborhood residents; yet not identify those suspected or involved by name or reveal the exact address of the incident.
4. **New Projects – House Numbering, Traffic Calming Devices:** Nothing to report.
5. **Miscellaneous:** The town may incur additional charges from the RST Program, due to unbilled fringe benefits for police overtime. The exclusion of fringe benefits may increase costs by 53.5%. L. Francis is monitoring this issue for the town. This may affect policing hours covered by grant funding (usually done on overtime). F. DeFelice reported that funds for the Part-time Administrative Assistant for the RST which were requested by the

PSC some years ago were included in the recently approved town budget. M. Pearce suggested that all Traffic Violations, Burglaries, Larcenies, etc. should be published in a local newspaper; under the heading of "Durham Police Blotter". The committee received a presentation on a program designed to improve developmental assets of our town's youth from Ms. Donna Montelle, who represents the Durham / Middlefield Youth Families Services (DMYFS). Ms. Montelle requested that she be permitted to present a more in-dept presentation to the committee at a future PSC meeting. D. Murphy presented the committee with several Public Safety Announcements (PSA's); for the committee's incorporation in the town website as monthly PSA's under the heading of *Public Safety Updates*. D. Murphy will work with the committee to compile 12 - 18 subject presentations. F. DeFelice will work with K. Garvis to set up website to accommodate *Public Safety Updates* section.

6. **Adjournment:** Motion properly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting (M. Pearce / D. Murphy) – Unanimous.