

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

May 9, 2005

PRESENT: Commissioner Greg North, Chair
Commissioner Trevor Johnson (regrets)
Commissioner Linda Mosher
Commissioner Brad Johns (regrets)
Commissioner Jim Smith
Commissioner James Perrin
Commissioner Ernestine Gouthro

STAFF: Chief Frank Beazley, HRP
Supt. Vern Fraser, RCMP
Supt . Faulkner, HRP
Stephanie Parsons, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 11, 2005

MOVED by Commissioner James Perrin, seconded by Commissioner Gouthro, that the minutes of April 11, 2005 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions

- 6.4 HRP - Year End Statistics
- 6.5 Oldtimers Hockey Challenge
- 6.6 Documentary Paintings - Halifax Regional Police
- 6.7 Police Week
- 6.8 Resolution 3063

The agenda was accepted as amended

4. CONFLICT DECLARATIONS - NONE

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

5.1.1 Governance

This item has been deferred.

5.1.2 Rewards for Major Unsolved Crimes

Chief Beazley advised that the Department of Justice is presently looking at regulations.

5.1.3 Use of Photo Radar and Traffic Light Cameras

Chief Beazley advised that the Department of Justice is reviewing the Ottawa model.

6. REPORTS:

6.1 NSCPA and NSAPB Fall Conference

Chief Beazley advised the Board that the Conference will take place from September 29-30 at the Pictou Lodge and arrangements would be made through his office.

6.2 Canadian Association of Police Boards 16th annual meeting Conference

Chief Beazley advised the Board that the conference will be held in Ottawa from August

17-20, 2005 and arrangements would be made through his office.

6.3 Length of Board Meetings

A brief discussion ensued and it was agreed that the meetings be planned for two hours and if required the meetings will be extended and that the Legislative Assistant e-mail the Commissioners any added items.

The Chair advised the Commissioners that if they have an added item to contact the Legislative Assistant, noting the deadline for agenda items was the Monday prior to the meeting.

6.4 HRP Year end statistics

Chief Beazley gave an overview of the statistics and noted that:

- there was an increase in reported offences from 2003-2004
- fraud increased to 41.6%
- homicide increases and decreases from year to year
- assaults decreased
- 50 percent of the youth whom have "conditions" are violating them

Commissioner Mosher raised concern that if the youth are violating their conditions, what is the significance of placing conditions and that group homes are not ensuring that the youth meet curfew.

Chief Beazley agreed that a better solution is required, but curfews are a way to get the youth off the street; however, zero tolerance policing cannot be sustained in the long term. Chief Beazley also noted that there are concerns with the mentally ill being placed in a penitentiary. Chief Beazley also advised the Board that the act is based on the premise that there are resources to deal with these issues. The intent of the criminal code is to protect the public, if it is not effective it may need to be changed.

Commissioner Smith asked Chief Beazley if there was any benefit to releasing information as to where offences have taken place and that maybe there is a requirement to release more information on cases that are solved.

Chief Beazley commented that they have been releasing more information to the public, the problem is the editorial process. They need to be careful of what they release as people may interpret it differently. He intends to meet with the media regarding reporting of police matters.

6.5 Oldtimers Hockey Challenge

Chief Beazley advised the Board that The Municipal Association of Police Personnel will be organizing the Oldtimers Hockey Challenge and that all monies raised will be donated

to the IWK.

6.6 Documentary Paintings

Chief Beazley advised the Board that a local artist has participated in a ride along and indicated that she was impressed with the true picture of policing. She had proposed that she video tape a ride along from which she will produce a painting. Proceeds from the sale of any paintings will be donated to charity. The Department has agreed to work with the artist. The artist has received a grant from the NS Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage.

6.7 Police week

Chief Beazley advised the Board that the RCMP and HRP will kickoff Police week May 12 at 9:00 at the Halifax Forum.

Commissioner Smith asked where it was going to be held next year and if they had considered holding it in other areas of the municipality. The Chief advised Commissioner Smith that it will be held in Dartmouth next year and that he would get back to him about holding it in other areas, noting space is an issue.

6.8 Resolution 3063

A copy of the resolution was circulated to the Committee for informational purposes.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2005.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned into the In Camera session.

Stephanie Parsons
Legislative Assistant