

Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee Regular Meeting

October 2, 2023

Minutes Final

This meeting will be held via Teams with in-person attendance at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Dr.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors, its committees, and subcommittees are subject to the Alaska Open Meetings Act as found in Alaska Statute 44.62.310 and Anchorage Municipal Code 1.25 - Public Meetings.

The Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

7:06PM Call to order, Emily Lewis, Co-Chair

Roll call: Attending are Emily Lewis (EL), Ken Waugh (KW) and Tommy O'Malley (TO)

Mike Opalka and Amanda Sassi (GBOS) are unable to attend

Quorum confirmed

Agenda approval for October 2 2023 KW/TO

Minutes approval from Sept 12 2023 postponed to November

Announcements/Introductions/Presentation:

Old Business:

- 1) Community relations opportunities:

Outreach with WPD info and EMS Info to the following: Newspaper; newsletters; Clinic; Other

TO has reached out to Turnagain News regarding upcoming PSAC events: kids & cops, Cyber bullying, coffee & cops
Chief Weston writes articles regarding public safety for the Turnagain News also and Fire Dept places public service messages with KEUL. She recommends that Police could do so as well.

Clinic is interested in fentanyl test strips, these may be more successfully acquired/distributed by Fire Dept.

Chief Weston has a draft document with important phone numbers, which she will share with PSAC.

- 2) Review Parenting in the Digital Age Event October 6.

Event is being publicized locally and in Whittier. Michelle Weston will share it with closed social media pages for Hope and Bird/Indian communities. Some members of PSAC plan to provide baked goods, fire dept is providing some refreshments as well. Room is available after noon, group can set up early and test AV when convenient.

- 3) Discuss and vote to recommend \$15,000 in improvements to Whittier Police Station in Girdwood, owned by ACS, to be paid through temporary rent increase.

Although this has been under discussion for some time, GVSA only recently received the quote from ACS for the cost of improvements.

Motion:

PSAC moves to recommend that the GBOS approve expense of NTE \$15,000 for improvements to the police substation, to be paid thru a temporary rent increase.

TO/KW

Motion carries via Assent vote.

- 4) Discuss and consider PSAC recommendation for GBOS to pursue GVSA Property Tax exemption for Fire and EMS Volunteers.

Based on recommendation by Girdwood Fire Board, Resolution 2023-17 was passed by GBOS at their Sept Meeting. It is late in coming to PSAC, however their support is desired by GBOS. This will move forward to Assembly and will require a positive vote of the entire MOA in the spring election.

Motion:

PSAC moves to support Resolution 2023-17: Support for a Property Tax Exemption in the GVSA for volunteers serving Girdwood Fire Department.

TO/KW

Motion carries via Assent vote.

New business: None

Other Business:

5) Review upcoming community events (see meeting packet)

October has lots of community events scheduled, listed in the meeting packet.

Kids and Cops event will be attended by Amanda Sassi and Mike Opalka as Tommy O'Malley will be out of town.

Also full calendar for Alyeska Resort is included in the meeting packet.

6) GVSA Manager Update on concerns from prior meetings (see meeting packet)

Updates to those items listed in the packet are:

Pedestrian Safety Corridor: DOT who has assisted GVSA with stencils/paint on the bike path has retired and replacement is not yet in position.

DOT Bridge abutment erosion: AWWU is also concerned and recommending quicker action as they have water line infrastructure under the bridge. DOT plan continues to be to get funding and make repairs in 2024.

October/November storm season and spring melt remain concerns. GBOS will review a resolution to send to DOT at their next meeting.

Unsafe Parking: GBOS received PSAC request for no parking signs to be placed on Donner Rd and produced/passed Resolution 2023-16, requesting MOA Traffic dept to approve signs to be placed on one side of Donner Rd.

7) Roundtable comments from the PSAC board: None

8) Confirm next meeting date: Nov 6 2023

Emily Lewis will be away. Staff will review business and discuss cancellation with co-chairs. If November meeting is canceled, next meeting will be December 4 with discussion of New Years festivities.

Public Safety Reports:

WPD Update (WPD Chief Andre Achee) – Stats for year have been received and are posted in the meeting packet and on line on the PSAC page. Update to this will be added to the meeting packet.

Chief Achee states that animal calls are increasing as bears are causing trouble in the community. Increase also in break-ins, stolen property. He reminds everyone to lock their vehicles and homes.

GFR Update (Chief Michelle Weston) – Steady at 30 calls on average per month. 27 AED machines are now in the valley and are being installed in locations where they can be easily accessed. Chief Weston encourages people to join Pulsepoint app to be aware of accidents, etc. This also is used to show where assistance may be needed for those trained in first aid and CPR. Recruitment just ended for new members. No Girdwood residents applied in this recruitment round.

GBOS Public Safety Supervisor report (Amanda Sassi) - None

Public Comment: None

Adjourn 8PM