

Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting
October 4, 2021
Minutes Final

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.

Meeting is taking place via Teams.

7:04PM Call to order, Ken Waugh, Co-Chair

Roll call: PSAC attending are Ken Waugh (KW), Tommy O'Malley (TO)

Confirmation of Quorum: Jennifer Wingard (JW), GBOS Public Safety supervisor, participates to create quorum.

Agenda approval for October 4 2021 meeting TO/JW 3-0

Minutes approval from September 8 2021 meeting postponed.

Announcements/Introductions/Presentation:

Old Business:

- 1) Girdwood access to Area-wide alcohol tax funded programs in the following areas:
 - a. Law Enforcement and First Responders
 - b. Child abuse, Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence Prevention
 - c. Behavioral Health Treatment and Homelessness Intervention

Vote regarding request to add this to MOA/GBOS Joint meeting on October 25 at 4PM

Group discusses the ordinance passed in 2020 taxing alcohol sales 5% Areawide for new programs to address the areas of enforcement, abuse and behavioral health/homelessness.

Current understanding is that collection of the tax began in Feb 2021, with \$759,000 received that month, now an estimated \$11,000,000 has been collected. It was originally the intent to use new funding for additional training for Police Dept, Fire Dept/EMT, and to provide new behavioral health/homelessness intervention through Core Team to be assembled and housed in Government Hill, an area near to the homeless population it is intended to serve. Upon getting started at that location, the project resources would be spread out Areawide, with a projected timeline to provide services in Girdwood estimated at about 1 year from implementation (est summer 2022). A new program, the hiring was not yet complete at the change of administration and progress on the new program(s) under the new administration is not known.

Tommy O'Malley has contacted various municipal departments, including Anchorage Fire Chief, Anchorage Police Dept, Office of Management and Budget, Treasury, and Assemblywoman Suzanne LaFrance. The concern is that the MOA be aware that Girdwood alcohol taxes are contributing to the Areawide funding and that Girdwood must be included in receiving resources to deal with issues occurring here. Girdwood's situation is unique as it is outside the Anchorage Police Service Area and Fire Service Area. It is likely that implementation to reach Girdwood will need to be addressed specifically.

Tommy has documented ongoing and increasing need through the Girdwood Clinic, Food Pantry, Methodist Church. It is established that Girdwood has documented issues related to the 3 areas the tax is supposed to address.

Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee is a sub-committee to the Girdwood Board of Supervisors

Motion:

Public Safety Advisory Committee moves to request that this topic is added to the Oct 25 MOA/GBOS Joint meeting agenda.

Motion by Ken Waugh, 2nd by Tommy O'Malley

Roll Call vote

Motion carries 3-0

- 2) Public Safety Contract: Entering 2022, PSAC will review comps for consideration of all possible policing alternatives to serve the Girdwood Valley Service Area:
 - Girdwood Police Dept
Cost comparison of options
 - Join Anchorage Police Dept
Cost and options to join Police Service area or contract with APD
 - Whittier Police Contract extension and new contract
Discussion with Whittier re interest in renewal/new contract
Possibility of renewing for 1 year or 3 years if renewal is selected option.
- 3) Coffee with a Cop/Outreach opportunities:
November 20 from 10A-12P at Spoonline
- 4) PSAC Organizational discussion
Deferred until full group is attending.

New business:

None

Other Business:

- 5) Review upcoming community events

PTA Trunk or Treat	October 29	Girdwood school parking
Dias De Los Muertos	October 30	Town Square Park
Halloween	October 31	Town-wide, including Alta/Alpina/Barren
Coffee with a cop	Nov 20	Spoonline
Thanksgiving	Nov 25	
ASD Winter Break	Dec 16-Jan 3	
New Years Eve	Dec 31	
- 6) Girdwood Grassroots concerns from prior meetings:
 - Update on request to lower speed limit on Crow Creek Road: Study in summer, 2022
 - Update on Stop signs replacing Yield signs: new director in place in MOA traffic, to re-engage soon.
 - Girdwood Bear Aware Amendment to STRZ code and progress on defective cans: Assemblyman Weddleton working on STRZ. No progress to report on replacing defective cans thru Alaska Waste
 - Domestic Violence information campaign: GBOS approved funding to print info flyers and Briana has been posting, engaging with businesses, etc.
- 7) Roundtable comments from the PSAC board: Tommy will continue to get information regarding Areawide alcohol tax and programs for training WPD, GFR, and access to programs for behavioral health and homelessness.
- 8) Set next meeting date: November 1

Public Safety Reports:

WPD Update (WPD Chief Andre Achee)

Written report pending, along with comparison of 2021 to 2020 as requested by GBOS.

In August WPD responded to 85 calls, down by 11 from Aug 2020.

WPD continues to rotate officers to provide overnight service in Girdwood.

Ongoing attention to main roads, targeting speeding, as requested by community.

1 vacancy in the department still to be filled.

WPD considering how to participate at local Halloween events, perhaps passing out glow sticks, etc as they did last year.

In response to report by Ken Waugh, Chief Achee will follow up with ASD bus contractor First Student. Vehicles that ignore bus stop sign may be photographed or license plate recorded by driver and ticketed by police later.

GFR Update (Chief Michelle Weston)

Written report pending.

EMS \$300,000 additional funding for 2021 from MOA was received.

New contract is not yet signed.

October is Fire Prevention Month, although no school visits/activities due to COVID

Fire Dept considering how to participate in local Halloween festivities without risking unnecessary exposure.

GFR recommends masks for all at the department; Masks are not required as building is MOA-owned. municipal.

Bi-weekly COVID testing is coming to Girdwood starting Oct 5 (TUE and SAT) Register at

<https://www.covidsecureapp.com/>

In-home COVID vaccination also available on Oct 7 and 19. Register at

<https://anchoragecovidvaccine.org/>

GBOS Public Safety Supervisor report (Jennifer Wingard)

GBOS moved to on-line meetings based on federal emergency declaration.

GBOS is working on separate provision, not related to emergency declaration, to allow on-line meetings as participation and engagement was higher with on-line option.

Public Comment: Tommy O'Malley says that a friend received at home covid vaccine from GFR member. Thanks for the great service.

Adjourn 8:15PM