

Village of Wellington

*12300 Forest Hill Blvd
Wellington, FL 33414*



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

6:30 PM

Village Hall

Public Safety Committee

I Call to Order

Vice Chair Jacqueline Hutman called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

II Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Jacqueline Hutman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III Roll Call

Members present: Vice Chair Jacqueline Hutman, Michael Arena, John Archambo, Brad Johnson, and Michael Weil.

Members absent: Chair Mohammad Junaid Akther and Salvatore Van Casteren

Staff Present: Nicole Coates , Gloria Kelly, and Jonathan Reinsvold

Guests: Lt. Eli Shaivitz, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, District Chief Phillip Olavarria, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, Elyse Brown, Supervisor of the Community Risk Division for the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, Brian Ruscher, Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency's Deputy Director of Multimodal, Sarah Mooney, Palm Beach County School Police Chief, Tara Applebaum, Executive Director of the Safety 4 Life Foundation and Brian Labovick, Founder and President of Safety 4 Life.

IV Opening Comments

The committee members welcomed each other and stated they are looking forward to this evening's meeting.

V Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Michael Arena, seconded by John Archambo, and unanimously passed (5-0), to approve the Agenda as presented.

VI Approval of Minutes**A. [PSC-211](#) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 22, 2022 REGULAR MEETING**

A motion was made by Michael Arena, seconded by John Archambo, and unanimously passed (5-0), to approve June 22, 2022 regular meeting minutes.

VII Old Business

No comments for old business.

VIII New Business

Ms. Coates shared that there is an update to the agenda and that the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office District 8 presentation will be moved up since the K9 Therapy Unit is at the meeting.

A. [PSC-207](#) PRESENTATION OF VISION ZERO AND SAFE STREETS

Ms. Coates introduced Brian Ruscher, the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency's Deputy Director of Multimodal.

Mr. Ruscher shared his presentation on Complete Streets and Vision Zero for the Village of Wellington.

Mr. Weil asked how well other communities in Palm Beach County work with the TPA?

Mr. Ruscher shared that 10 municipalities have adopted the Vision Zero and Complete Streets Plans.

Mr. Arena asked from looking at the heat map of Wellington in the Big Blue Trace/Wellington Trace area, what would be some examples of things the TPA would do or recommend to do?

Mr. Reinsvold introduced himself to the committee and went on to explain the examples and measures the Village and County are looking to improve for the Big Blue Trace/Wellington Trace intersection.

B. [PSC-205](#) SAFETY 4 LIFE PRESENTATION

Ms. Applebaum introduced herself to the committee and introduced Brian Labovick, the Founder and President of Safety 4 Life. She mentioned that before this role, she was the Vision Zero Coordinator for the City of West Palm Beach prior.

Mr. Labovick shared that Safety 4Life's vision is to create an impact on the lives of young people in the community through them learning to be safe in 4 main areas; road safety, human trafficking safety, internet safety and law enforcement interactions.

Ms. Applebaum introduced Melanie, a Wellington High School student ambassador. She went on to mention they have 300 ambassadors in Wellington and Mr. Labovick mentioned that Wellington is their best program.

Melanie shared how this program has been very effective to students and helped to change habits in the students. She recommends this program for all students because it is very eye-opening and educational.

Ms. Applebaum shared how the organization does car accident re-enactments, safety fairs, workshops, and assemblies. She shared that Safety 4 Life will be out at the Wellington Public Safety event on October 8th.

Ms. Hutman asked if the DMV helps to share their organization's message.

Ms. Applebaum said that in recent years they have not shared outreach safety efforts.

C. [PSC-206](#) PRESENTATION BY PALM BEACH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE CHIEF SARAH MOONEY

Police Chief Mooney introduced herself to the committee. She shared that the School District priorities include, safety, security, customer service, and community engagement.

Chief Mooney shared the overview of what the Palm Beach County School District is doing. She stated some are state mandates and some are best practices.

Mr. Johnson asked how signage is managed throughout the District.

Chief Mooney said that Facilities would take care of that and to go ahead and submit a work order.

Mr. Johnson asked what the directives are to the parking lot and traffic direction.

Chief Mooney said that it is determined by the head administrator working with the school police

IX Reports

A. [PSC-209](#)

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Coates gave the staff report. She shared the upcoming Top Cop and Top Firefighter presentation is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21st. She continued to share what upcoming events are taking place in Wellington.

She reminded the committee that we are in peak hurricane season and to be prepared.

Mr. Johnson asked if a weekend out of town qualifies for the House Watch program.

Ms. Coates stated a weekend would qualify under the House Watch program.

B. [PSC-208](#)

PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DISTRICT 8 WELLINGTON REPORT

Deputy Roy Gonzalez introduced the K9 Therapy Unit. He introduced the Public Safety Committee to the newest addition, K9 Charlie and the other K9 Therapy Unit members. He shared the purpose of the unit and how the unit was formed in 2020.

Deputy Gonzalez shared when the unit is deployed and that the K9 unit comes out to community events. He shared how K9 Charlie and K9 Lars were at the Back to School event in August.

At the conclusion of Deputy Gonzalez' presentation, Lt. Shaivitz mentioned that the K9 Unit was the portion of his presentation this evening, so the committee could ask any other questions if needed.

C. [PSC-210](#)

PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE REPORT

Chief Olavarria reported the response reports. He stated that they received 543 calls in May, 544 calls in June, and 519 calls in July.

He stated they responded to 32 fire calls. He looked further into the numbers and only 3 were actual fires.

Chief Olavarria shared that the dispatch handling time is between 45 and 50 seconds. The actual turnout times are between 50 and 55 seconds and the road travel time is right around 5 minutes of travel time.

Chief Olavarria shared that Palm Beach County Fire Rescue has been awarded the Class 1 Fire Department. This will take effect on November 1, 2022.

He went on to introduce Elyse Brown, a Community Risk Reduction Division for the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. Ms. Brown stated they are trying to customize their outreach initiatives to the communities. She said they have gone to the fire stations to ask what the stations are seeing out in the communities.

Mr. Archambo congratulated the Fire Department for this prestigious award.

Mr. Weil asked what the other remaining fire calls were.

Chief Olavarria stated some people call thinking there is a fire or they think they see a fire.

Committee members thanked the Chief for his presentation.

X Public Comments

No public comment.

XI Closing Comments

Mr. Arena thanked Ms. Coates for putting together tonight's meeting agenda with the presenters.

Mr. Weil said this was the best meeting of the year and very informative.

Ms. Hutman commented this was a great meeting.

Mr. Archambo stated these were great presentations.

Mr. Johnson asked jokingly if there could be more dogs next time.

XII Adjournment

A motion was made by Michael Arena, seconded by John Archambo, and unanimously passed (5-0), to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.