

Village of Wellington

*12300 Forest Hill Blvd
Wellington, FL 33414*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

6:30 PM

Village Hall - Council Chambers

Public Safety Committee

*Ron Herman, Chair
Jacqueline Hutman, Vice Chair
Mohammad Junaid Akther
William Flack
Cherie McBrayer
Michael Weil
Ernie Zimmerman*

I Call to Order

Chair Ron Herman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

II Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

III Roll Call

Members present: Ron Herman, Chair; Jaqueline Hutman, Vice Chair; Ernie Zimmerman, Cherie McBrayer, Michael Weil, William Flack.

Members Absent: Muhammed Akther.

Staff Present: Paulette Edwards, Staff Liaison; Nicole Coates, Staff Liaison; Laura Aldrich, Recording Secretary; Liz Nunez, Public Information Officer; Tom Lundeen, Village Engineer, Patrick Barthelemy, Senior Engineer.

Others Present: Lt. Eli Shaivitz, Stephanie Sejnoha, PBC Public Safety Director; Battalion Chief Wooldridge.

IV Opening Comments

Chair Herman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

V Approval of Agenda

Mr. Zimmerman made a motion to approve the agenda.

Mr. Herman asked that the agenda be modified to allow the Presentation to be moved to item 7A under Presentations. Mr. Herman asked for a motion to approve the revised agenda.

Mr. Flack made a motion, seconded by Mr. Weil, to approve the March 27, 2019 revised agenda. Motion carried unanimously 6-0 with Mr. Akther absent.

Mr. Herman asked for a motion to add a presentation by Mr. John Shriner to the agenda under presentations.

Mr. Flack made a motion, seconded by Ms. McBrayer, to approve the additional revision to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously 6-0 with Mr. Akther absent.

VI Approval of Minutes**A. [PSC-111](#)****APPROVAL OF JANUARY 23, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Ms. McBrayer, to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2019 regular meeting, as presented. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Mr. Akther absent.

VII Presentations

A. [PSC-116](#) PRESENTATION OF NEW ALERT WELLINGTON RESIDENT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM - LIZ NUNEZ

This was moved to Item B. under Presentations.

Ms. Nunez presented information on Wellington's new Alert Wellington notification system which was replacing the current Code Red System for emergency notifications to residents. Sign up was available through the app or the Village website. Notifications could be individually set during signup to include weather, road closures, boil water notices and upcoming events and could be programmed to be received via landline as well as cellular. The AlertMe app was available through both Google Play and iTunes platforms. All residents would need to register regardless of whether they were currently enrolled in the Code Red system as registrations would not roll over to the new system. Enrollees would need a computer, tablet, iPad or smart phone in order to sign up. Community Services staff would also be available to assist residents with signup.

B. [PSC-117](#) PRESENTATION BY STEPHANIE SEJNOHA, PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY

Stephanie Sejnoha, Public Safety Director for Palm Beach County took a moment to recognize Kelley Burke, Senior Aide for Commissioner Melissa McKinlay.

Ms. Sejnoha went on to describe the Department of Public Safety, which was comprised of six distinct divisions; 911 Program Services, Animal Care and Control, Consumer Affairs, Emergency Management, Finance and Administrative Services, Justice and Victims Services. She gave a brief description of each Department and their responsibilities.

C. [PSC-115](#) WELLINGTON TRAFFIC ISSUES

Mr. Tom Lundeen, Village Engineer, presented information on Wellington's policy regarding the installation of traffic calming measures on private and public roadways. Studies were currently underway in various locations. Palm Beach County was also conducting a study at the intersection of South Shore Boulevard and Pierson Road in an effort to isolate eastbound traffic and move it more efficiently through the intersection, especially during the equestrian season.

Mr. Lundeen responded to concerns from Committee members regarding increased traffic on Greenview Shores and traffic issues near Wellington's schools.

Ms. McBrayer requested statistics regarding the number of tickets issued for speeding in a school zone.

Ms. Edwards introduced Mr. John Shriner who spoke briefly regarding speeding and the functions of a neighborhood watch group.

D. JOHN SHRINER - NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH CAPTAIN

Mr. John Shriner, Neighborhood Watch Captain, discussed the various responsibilities of the neighborhood watch groups and provided an update on the current watch groups. Wellington now had over 20 active neighborhood watch groups. He commended Wellington and Palm Beach County for their efforts in ensuring the safety of their residents.

VIII Reports**A. [PSC-114](#)****STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Edwards introduced Nicole Coates, Public Safety and Emergency Management Director. Going forward, Ms. Coates would replace Ms. Edwards as the Committee's liaison. Community Services would continue to coordinate with COP's and neighborhood watch groups and provide regular updates.

Ms. Edwards reported on the recent Walk & Talk that had been conducted in the Marketplace and Wellington Trace shoppes in an effort to address loitering complaints. She also reported that the essay contest approved by the Committee at their last meeting would be looked at for implementation during the next school year. A neighborhood watch meeting schedule would also be provided.

She invited the Committee to attend the upcoming Village Wide neighborhood watch meeting which would include public safety and hurricane preparedness

B. [PSC-112](#)**PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT DISTRICT 8 WELLINGTON REPORTS**

Lt. Shaivitz provided statistical updates and spoke briefly about the 911 system and how it functions. PBSO would soon be presenting their annual report to the Village Council. Operation Wild Stallion II would be in effect in an effort to address underage drinking and DUI's during the equestrian season. Active shooter training would take place sometime in August. Citation statistics would be forthcoming as requested. Over 3,800 citations had been written in 2018. Speeding complaints were addressed as they were received; the speed trailer was being placed in various locations as a deterrent. PBSO continued to provide golf cart enforcement and education with a goal on compliance. District 8 was the only District with the Sheriff's Department that had a juvenile deputy, previously D/S Delia and now D/S Carseni. D/S Carseni's responsibilities included checking up on juveniles and their probation requirements.

C. [PSC-113](#)**PALM BEACH COUNTY FIRE RESCUE REPORT**

Battalion Chief Kenny Wooldridge provided the Fire Rescue report on behalf of District Chief William Rowley. Battalion 2 was a large area, encompassing Wellington, Loxahatchee, Royal Palm Beach, and the Acreage. January and February 2019 showed a reduction in total incidents, down from 474 in 2018 to 432 in 2019. The majority of calls continued to be medical at over 80% with the balance of calls being fires and vehicle accidents. In February of 2018 there

were a total of 470 incidents; 2019 was down to 455. Fires include brush fires, vehicle and structure fires. Total average response time for 2018 was 6.36; for January the average was 6.58 and February was 7.07. Travel times tended to increase during the equestrian season.

D. [PSC-118](#)

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Ms. Coates was excited to be taking over as the Committee's liaison and continuing the great work that had been done. She spoke about the upcoming April 24th joint meeting of the Public Safety and Education Committees. Representatives from the Palm Beach County School Board and School Police would be in attendance. On May 8th there would be a joint neighborhood watch meeting beginning at 6:00 pm at the Community Center. She commended the Committees work on the texting and driving essay contest that had been proposed. Wellington was part of the Safety Council of Palm Beach which included the Teen Safe Driving Coalition. She had reached out to the Coalition and reported that the Village could host a presenter, entitled "Drive to Save Lives", which offered nationally recognized speakers on teen traffic safety issues. If interested, the program was grant funded; presentations could be made at local high schools.

Mr. Weil made a motion, seconded by Ms. McBrayer, to follow up on securing a presenter from the Teen Safe Driving Coalition/Students Against Drunk Driving. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Mr. Akther absent.

Ms. Coates reviewed the Fire Rescue Services MSTU (Municipal Service Taxing Unit), referring to the copy of the portion of Wellington's Charter that referred to the provision of Fire Rescue services which was included with the agenda. The MSTU was part of each residents property tax assessment to Palm Beach County, unlike the Village's contract with the Sheriff's Office. Representatives from the Palm Beach County School Board and School Police would be in attendance.

Chief Wooldridge reported that all Palm Beach County Fire Rescue stations were located on properties owned by Palm Beach County. Palm Beach County had also recently purchased stations in Royal Palm Beach from the Village of Royal Palm Beach.

Wellington had been named one of the safest cities in Florida on www.safewise.com, ranking in the top 50 at number 33.

The next scheduled Public Safety Committee would take place on Wednesday, June 26th.

XII Public Comments

Public comment was moved to Item IX ahead of Old Business.

Eddie Singer, a resident from the Olympia subdivision, addressed the committee on the subject of child safety and traffic issues at Equestrian Trails school. Mr. Singer voiced concerns regarding the dissaray that he observed during drop off and pickup at the school. The school had staggered the release times, releasing walkers and bikers ahead of those being picked up but it did little to address the problem.

Mr. Zimmerman suggested placing a Deputy Sheriff at every school in the mornings to handle traffic issues.

Ms. Edwards responded that the Assistant Village Manager has had conversations with school board staff and suggested that the joint meeting might be a good opportunity to provide an update. She would add it as an item to be addressed at the joint meeting. She invited Mr. Singer to attend. She warned that the Village and PBSO were limited in their capabilities when it came to issues on school properties and with school schedules.

fIX Old Business

A. None

Ms. Hutman asked about the status of the essay contest.

Ms. Edwards responded that, as the implementation would not take place until the next school year, school staff had not provided their edits to the rubrik but she hoped to have that ready prior to August.

X New Business

A. None

XI Open Discussion and Future Agenda Planning

Ms. Hutman requested that an item regarding personal surveillance cameras be added to a future agenda to include educating residents on the legalities of personal surveillance cameras.

Lt. Shaivitz responded that, generally, as long as a sign was posted indicating that a camera was present, the cameras would not pose an issue. A brochure for distribution or info placed on Wellington's Channel 18 could also be helpful.

XIII Closing Comments

Mr. Weil reported that he had (in error) attended the last Education Committee meeting which had concluded within an hour.

Mr. Zimmerman stated that he was pleased with the reports and speakers and the content of the agenda.

XIV Adjournment

Mr. Zimmerman made a motion, seconded by Ms. McBrayer to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.