



**MINUTES**  
**Community Policing Advisory Committee**

April 21, 2021  
9:00 am  
Video Conference

Committee Members Present: Mayor Strathdee  
Councillor Winter  
Doug Diplock  
Jacqueline Hibbert  
Paul Dunseith

Stratford Police Services Present: Chief Greg Skinner  
Deputy Chief Foster  
Community Resources Officer Aaron Mounfield

Staff Present: Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jenna McCartney, Clerk

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

**2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None.

**3. AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Committee wished to add the following agenda items:

6.1 COVID-19 response

6.2 On-street parking

6.3 Suspicious Person Identification

6.4 Park Patrol

**Moved By** Paul Dunseith

**Seconded By** Jacqui Hibbert

**THAT** the April 21, 2021 Community Policing Advisory Committee agenda be accepted as amended.

**CARRIED**

**4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert

**Seconded By** Paul Dunseith

**THAT** the March 17, 2021 Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting minutes be approved by the Committee and signed by the Chair and the Secretary.

**CARRIED**

**5. REPORTS**

**5.1 CRIME STOPPERS REPORT**

Chief Skinner presented the March 2021 Crime Stoppers report and stated that page 9 of the agenda should have stated "March Tips by Type" rather than "February".

In response to an inquiry if specific locations of tips are known and could be shared, Chief Skinner stated that those details are not shared to ensure anonymity.

**Moved By** Councillor Winter

**Seconded By** Paul Dunseith

**THAT** the March 2021 Crime Stoppers report be received.

**CARRIED**

**5.2 POLICE MONTHLY STATISTICS**

Deputy Chief Foster presented the March police report.

Deputy Chief Foster confirmed that sexual offences reporting is broad in nature and includes all types of related offences.

Deputy Chief Foster was not able to confirm whether there were applicants to the Park Patrol program from St. Marys.

In response to an inquiry whether last year's Park Patrol staff indicated why they are not returning to employment this year, Deputy Chief Foster stated individuals were choosing alternative employment that aligned with different goals.

**Moved By** Jacqui Hibbert  
**Seconded By** Mayor Strathdee

**THAT** the March 2021 Police Monthly Statistics report be received.

**CARRIED**

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **6.1 COVID Response**

Chief Skinner stated that the Stratford Police Service (the "SPS") are making all attempts throughout the pandemic to provide education first to permit the individual an opportunity to voluntarily comply with the orders and regulations.

A number of the concerns relate to persons not wearing face coverings. To date, SPS has not had to move towards enforcement by penalty.

Over the past weekend, direction was provided by the Province to all police services in Ontario regarding enhanced powers to respond to infractions related to the pandemic. Since that time, the direction has been rescinded although the police still retain provisions for enforcing orders and regulations during the pandemic.

In response to an inquiry of how the public should respond to any public gathering such as a protest, Chief Skinner stated that the public should adhere to public health restrictions related to gatherings. If there are situations that the public is concerned about, contact the police immediately.

Public events that are in contravention of the law will be met with consequences, typically with event organizers being held responsible.

### **6.2 Onstreet Parking**

Paul Dunseith stated that the Waterloo Street South and Elizabeth Street reconstruction will result in less parking for properties and that residents in the area feel that on-street parking should be restricted after construction is completed.

Staff reported that the Traffic, Parking and Boulevard Maintenance by-law is being reviewed and amendments will be presented to Council in the coming months.

### **6.3 Suspicious Person Identification**

Paul Dunseith inquired if Crime Stoppers would identify to the public if there were persons with court conditions in the community.

Chief Skinner stated that information about an identifiable individual would only be released to the public if charges had already been laid and the police had a warrant for the person's arrest.

Chief Skinner reiterated that concerns about suspicious persons should be directed to the police immediately.

#### **6.4 Park Patrol**

Deputy Chief Foster provided an overview of the Park Patrol program and stated that SPS is targeting the week after the May holiday weekend as a start date.

In response to a statement that vehicles have been noted on the walking path of the loop trail, it was confirmed that the Park Patrol staff could monitor this situation and respond as required.

In response to an inquiry whether the Community Developer and Support Worker would be available to meet members at a future Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting, staff confirmed that they will make arrangements.

#### **6.5 Body Worn Camera Program**

Chief Skinner asked Deputy Chief Foster to provide an update on the implementation of the body worn camera program.

Deputy Chief Foster provided an update on the deployment of body cameras within SPS and stated that the process is progressing as planned. The first phase particularly relates to development, such as policies. Three members of SPS will wear body worn cameras for a quarter and then evaluate the process. It is anticipated that by the fourth quarter, equipment will be deployed to all members.

### **7. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Chair Diplock reviewed the upcoming meeting as presented on the agenda.

### **8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved By** Councillor Winter

**Seconded By** Mayor Strathdee

**THAT** this Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting adjourn at 9:52 am.

**CARRIED**

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Chair Diplock

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Brent Kittmer, Chief Administrative Officer