

Chatsworth Police Services Board

February 17, 2005

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Chatsworth Police Services Board was held on the above date.

Present: Board Members Bob Elliot, Cornelius Vlieland, Bill Coke, Commander Mark VanLanduyt, Officer Dean Rutherford of Crime Stoppers, Grey Bruce Inc., and Grace Nayler, Secretary.

Election of Officers

The secretary opened nominations for the position of chairperson.

Cornelius Vlieland nominated Bob Elliot for Chairperson. Bob Elliot accepted the nomination. Bill Coke seconded the nomination. No other nominations were forthcoming.

Bob Elliot was acclaimed to the position of Chairperson.

Election of Vice Chairperson

Chairperson Bob Elliot opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

Cornelius Vlieland nominated Bill Coke. Bill Coke accepted the nomination. The Nomination was seconded by Bob Elliot. No other nominations were forthcoming.

Bill Coke was acclaimed to the position of Vice-Chairperson.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Appointment of Board Secretary

0012005 *Moved by Cornelius Vlieland*

Seconded by Bill Coke

That Grace Nayler be appointed secretary of the Chatsworth Police Services Board. Carried.

Call to Order

Adoption of Minutes

002/2005 *Moved by Cornelius Vlieland*

Seconded by Bill Coke

That the minutes of December 26, 2004 be accepted as circulated.

Carried.

Information Correspondence:

a) **OPP Constable Dean Rutherford of Crime Stoppers of Bruce Grey Inc. attended the meeting to inform the Board of the roll of Crime Stoppers in the Grey and Bruce area and how it functions.**

Crime Stopper Program was first initiated in 1976. The first crime was solved in 24 hours as a result of the tip line being introduced. There are now 39 programs in Ontario. Crime Stoppers is a Policing initiative that involves the Police, the Media and the Public. Crime Stoppers is community based, is a charitable program financed largely through fund raising. Crime Stoppers is designed to eliminate two major stumbling blocks with the community, those being the fear issue (name disclosure) and the apathy issue (what is in it for me). To combat these main issues Crime Stoppers is totally anonymous, and includes a financial reward to those who wish to have it.

Callers use the 1-800-222-TIPS telephone number. The caller will automatically get the local program office. When a call comes in, Crime Stoppers receives the call and assigns a code number to the caller, allowing this to be the reference number used by the caller. All persons calling in can follow up on the case by using this code number at any time. The Crime Stopper personnel are trained to ask as much information as possible to allow them to initiate proper action without having the caller reveal any personal information. This information is sent on to the proper authority. Information received in enough detail can many times aid law enforcement authorities in charges being laid, and/or making an arrest. Once information is successful in lawful action being taken, a recommendation is forwarded to the Board by the Program Director who uses a grid to estimate a reward amount. Once Crime Stoppers arrives at an award amount, they wait for the informant to call back to claim the reward. A false name is assigned to the informant and a place of pickup of the reward in cash arranged. The unidentified status of the caller stays in place at all times. The caller is never identified throughout the entire process.

Crime Stoppers is a community driven organization. It cannot run without the help of the police or other law enforcement agencies; the media who relay important information and often re-enactments of crimes to the public; and the response of the public. The public plays a very important roll in the success of Crime Stoppers. The Grey-Bruce office, unlike other program offices, is self sufficient in its funding needs.

Crime Stoppers has no avenue of sharing its success with the public on a case by case basis. The only way that the public can realize how successful the program is, is by the statistics that are made available to the public.

Officer Rutherford completed his presentation with the invitation for any service clubs who are interested in having a presentation given to their members are most welcome to call him.

b) **OPP December and January Reports**

Officer Ken MacPherson presented the Board with the December and January Chatsworth Police Services Board Report and statistics.

Officer MacPherson reported that the months of December and January were relatively quiet. The Officers investigated 12 motor vehicle collisions in December and several in January. In December there was a vehicle being driven by a male who was driving drunk while already under suspension for a previous impaired driving incident. The OPP were able to stop this driver as a result of a phone call from other driver on the road who was concerned that he was going to cause an accident.

On January 12, 2005 as a result of an ongoing investigation by the Grey County OPP Crime Unit, a Chatsworth area Marihuana growth operation was uncovered. The growth operation resides 5 km south of Chatsworth on Highway 10. Apprehended were “mother” plants and a resulting product of marihuana “shake”.

In unrelated incidents, 5 people were charged with drug possession and 5 people charged with impaired driving. None of these impaired charges were a result of the RIDE program also in effect during November 25-Jan. 01/05.

The RIDE program was a very large commitment for December and January. It needs to be kept in mind that the purpose for RIDE programs is to deter drinking and driving and not just catching and charging impaired drivers. The program did result in 13,151 vehicles being stopped, 6 driving license 12 hour suspensions, 4 persons charged with alcohol related Criminal Code driving offences and a total of 36 other charges being laid.

Personnel issues included up to 5 members that were, and 3 still on, modified duties resulting from work related and non-work related injuries. Another member was absent for ½ of the month of January as a result of an off duty motor collision.

The Grey County Detachment is looking forward to receiving two new probationary constables who are currently attending Aylmer. They will be arriving in May. Two officers are currently being trained to be their coach officers.

A public complaint received in November from a landlord and tenant dispute against an offer that responded was investigated during December and January and found to be totally unsubstantiated.

A new goal of the Grey County Detachment’s Business Plan is to promote education of Crime Prevention and Crime proofing strategies to the public through the media. The first article was to help educate the public in Indoor Marihuana Grows. Constable Steve Starr released an article in January and Inspector Mark VanLanduyt and Constable Don Fitzgerald were guests on a radio talk show covering this topic.

Another article is currently available which involves e-mail scams which can result in the provision to criminals’ access of personal bank accounts through a fraudulent 3-mail request for bank information. One such scam recently took place involving customers of the Royal Bank.

The 2004 Business Plan Commitments of the Grey County Detachment has resulted in a very successful year overall. In the majority of areas of Targets for the Year, the Detachment exceeded their targets for the year. The only areas that were not achieved or exceeded were due to abnormal weather conditions or in the case of driver contacts, unrealistic goals. These goals have been more appropriately set for the 2005 year.

The overtime hours for the 2005 year were well under the contracted commitment for overtime hours. This will result in a credit amount for the municipality. Also noted, the actual regular hours exceeded the contracted commitment. The municipality benefited from these hours because they do not pay extra for these hours.

c) **2005 OPP Business Plan**

Inspector VanLanduyt went over the new Business Plan with the board members. He noted that the plan is very similar to last year with only a few changes. The RIDE program has mandatory daytime commitment. That has been removed and has been changed to a minimum of 1 hour of ride per night. Added to the monthly traffic initiative, the Detachment Traffic Sargent is to choose and educate officers and the public on 12 traffic initiatives, one initiative per month, to help bring road safety concerns forward.

Recreational Behicle Safety has added ATVs patrols to the list. This initiative is a fairly conservative goal at this point because it is new and dependent on weather conditions and it is not clear at this point what requirements would be realistic.

Youth Initiative remains a priority in the 2005 Plan. A second category, that being canine patrols, has not been able to be used in the past. It is hoped that this activity be made available in the schools in the 2005 year, with the OPP and the school board coming to an agreement in allowing this initiative to go ahead.

Starting in June under Criminal Investigations, a full time abuse issues officer has been obtained. The goal is to offer victims of domestic abuse increased assistance and improved investigative and follow up effectiveness thereby ensuring increased safety for the victims of Domestic abuse.

003/2005 Moved by Cornelius Vlieland

Secoded by Bill Coke

That the Township of Chatsworth Police Services Board accepts the Ontario Provincial Police, Grey County Detachment 2005 Business Plan as the board's own Business plan for the 2005, 2006 and 2007 years. Carried.

d) **Procedure – Access to Municipal Premises**

The introduction of this protocol to the board is to make the board aware of the problems that officers encounter when incidents occur on municipally owned properties. Officers are limited in the actions they can take. Officers encounter people on municipal property and don't have the teeth needed to complete a more effective and authoritative action that they could do if they had more powers.

To address this problem, the Council of a municipality can empower to act as "authorized persons" an Officer of the Ontario Provincial Police, a person employed by the municipality and any other person in authority by the municipality for the purposes of enforcing the Trespass to Property Act.

Inspector Vanlanduyt strongly recommended to the board that they consider requesting the council of the Township of Chatsworth adopt this procedure in order to help protect municipal properties and persons from unnecessary harm and incident.

004/2005 Moved by Bill Coke

Secoded by Cornelius Vlieland

Having received the Access to Municipal Premises draft procedure as presented by the Detachment Commander, the Township of Chatsworth Police Services Board recommends that this protocol be forwarded on to Council for their consideration and adoption. Carried.

e) 2005/2006 RIDE Grant Program Application was noted and filed.

f) Sun Times Article – Provincial Court Cost Sharing.

The Board wishes Council to be aware that the article did not reflect the actions of the board in this matter. The board requested that the secretary relay to Council the actions of the board in the minutes of December 16, 2004, October 21, 2004 and August 26, 2004.

g) Ministry of Transportation – Re: speed limit at Holland Chatsworth School on Highway #10.

The board does not feel that the answer sent in the letter of January 11, 2005 from M.J. Kelly assists in the potential problems that exist on Highway 10 in front of the Holland Chatsworth School zone. The board has been informed that the Council of the Township of Chatsworth also desires a solution be achieved with regard to safety on the Highway in front of the school zone.

Officer MacPherson informed the board that there had been officers assigned to spend time at peak periods to study the potential speeding problem in front of the school. The outcome to date has resulted in one person being charged with speeding. The OPP suggest that the parents and others attending the school to pick up and drop off etc. students, or attend meetings should be advised by a letter or notice, possibly by the principal's office, to park on the side road and not on the side of the Highway. The OPP feel that parking on the side of the Highway causes a visibility problem.

The board feels that at the very least a flashing light should be placed in front of the school zone.

005-2005 Moved by Bill Coke

Seconded by Cornelius Vlieland

That the Chatsworth Police Services Board accept the 2004 Year End Report and the Report be presented to Council.

New Business

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2005 at 10:00 am

Adjournment

007/2005 Moved by Cornelius Vlieland

Seconded by Bill Coke

That the Chatsworth PSB adjourn at 12:00 p.m.

Carried.