

Minutes
ELGIN GROUP POLICE SERVICES BOARD
February 7, 2018

The Elgin Group Police Services Board met at the County Administration Building, 450 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, with the following in attendance:

Dave Marr, Chair
Jim Jenkins, Vice-Chair
Bonnie Vowel, Provincial Member
Joanne Ferguson, Provincial Member
Brad Fishleigh, Detachment Commander
Brian Johnson, Acting Staff Sgt.
Julie Gonyou, Secretary Administrator
Marie Findlay, Recording Secretary

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00pm

Adoption of Minutes:

Moved by Jim Jenkins
Seconded by Joanne Ferguson

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on December 6, 2017 be adopted.

- Carried.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: None

Correspondence:

1) Douglas G. Gunn, Gunn & Associates re: Resignation

Moved by Joanne Ferguson
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the correspondence from be received and filed; and

THAT the Elgin Services Police Board send correspondence of regret to Douglas Gunn for his resignation from the Board.

- Carried

Reports:

Detachment Commander's 2017 Year End Report

Detachment Commander Fishleigh presented the OPP 2017 Year End report, highlighting the following:

The Elgin County OPP Detachment has undergone many changes in 2017. We have combined the Property Crime and Drug Crime officers to create Street Crime Teams that work in partnership with our neighbouring detachment in Middlesex. The formation of the Street Crime Teams is about breaking down the silos and increasing communications and information sharing.

The Auxiliary Unit currently has 14 members. In 2017 they provided a total of 3100 volunteer hours during food drives, assisting at community events etc.

Bonnie : Do any of the auxiliary personnel attend the community policing meetings?

Commander Fishleigh : No, there is a liaison officer that attends and then shares information with personnel.

Business Planning – The Annual Business Plan had been changed to a three year Action Plan to coincide with the new OPP three year Strategic Plan and 2017 was the first year for the new action plan. It is broken down in four categories:

- Crime reducing victimization and property crimes; cyber and technology crime
- Drugs continued focus on drug crimes including trafficking and drugs in schools but not focusing as much on possession due to upcoming legalization of marijuana
- Traffic concentrating on the big four : impaired driving, speeding / aggressive driving, inattentive / distracted driving and seat belt use. Also, last year we focused on decreasing motorcycle crashes and fatalities.
- Other marine patrol on Lake Erie; response to persons with mental illness or crisis; reducing 911 pocket dials and false alarms.

Julie : How do you reduce pocket dials?

Commander Fishleigh : Education and working with cell carriers. We are hoping to create initiative of blocking pocket dials from occurring. This is critical to policing because of time spent investigating these types of calls.

Community Policing Committees – Elgin County OPP is very blessed to have a strong network of CPC's to represent the municipalities we serve. We work in partnership with our committees to identify and resolve issues of crime and traffic that are identified by the community. We commend them for the work that they do and attempt to encourage them to keep strong. As a result the new community satisfaction survey provided an outstanding outcome of 98.4% felt very safe in their community The survey involves approximately 30 questions.

Community Safety Officer – Another implementation in 2017 and this position has now been active for a full year. Our CSO, Constable Adam Crewdson, is very passionate about what he does in both elementary and secondary schools. He does a lot of our media and attends committee meetings. He also attends community events to further education and is a marine patroller on one of the OPP boats.

Traffic Safety – We have added the armadillo speed measuring device. This is a small and unnoticeable device that is very accurate in measuring the varying speeds. Whenever we

receive a complaint about speeding in a specific area the armadillo is set up to measure the speeds to see if there is truly a speeding problem. This saves valuable resources by not having to send officers if there is no issue.

Marine Safety – Focusing on appropriate licensing and not drinking & boating. Our patrolling is down due to loaner boat needing repairs for lengthy amount of time. We are hoping we will be provided with sufficient amount of boats for the coming season in 2018.

Crime Prevention – We continue our commitment to crime prevention. A large component of this goal is the pro-active education provided through media outlets and presentations provided by our CSO. Using analytics from the Detachment Analyst we identify areas of concern and assign officers to specific focused patrols related to crime and traffic trends. This not only acts as a deterrent to crime but also helps to have a patrol car at the right place at the right time to respond to crime and increase our odds of catching criminals in the act.

Elgin Group Financial Report – Please see financial reports for expenditures and revenues on pages 16 and 17 of the year end report.

Moved by Joanne Ferguson
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT the Detachment Commander's 2017 Year End Report be received and filed.

- Carried

Other Items:

1) OAPSB 2018 Spring Conference & AGM – Blue Mountain Resort

Moved by Jim Jenkins
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT anyone wanting to attend the conference contact Marie Findlay for registration.

2) Rescheduling of May Meeting

Moved by Joanne Ferguson
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT the meeting schedule for May 2, 2018 be moved to Tuesday, May, 1, 2018 at 3:00pm.

- Carried

New Business:

Question regarding ATV use:

Bonnie : What is the law regarding use of ATVs (all terrain vehicles)?

Commander Fishleigh : Geographically the only possibility of policing ATVs is that each lower tier must make a by-law stating the rules and regulations of ATV use. Malahide and Southwold have already created such by-laws. There are ATV trails throughout Central Elgin. One suggestion is to join the trails throughout Elgin County to give ATVs more access so that they stay off the roads.

Bonnie : What is the possibility of ATVs using old rail lines?

Commander Fishleigh : Patrons cannot legally use rail lines to drive ATVs. Enforcement is minimal as there are no police ATVs to give chase.

Adjournment:

Moved by Jim Jenkins
Seconded by Joanne Ferguson

THAT we now adjourn at 4:00 pm with the board to meet, Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. noting that the Chair could call a meeting earlier if required.

- Carried

Julie Gonyou,
Secretary / Administrator

Dave Marr,
Chair