
ATTENDING

- Chair, Councillor Isabel Madeira-Voss
- Mayor Wendy Donovan
- Councillor Ian Palmeter
- Emily Kathan
- David MacKinnon
- Shelley Fleckenstein
- Cpl. Travis Collins
- CAO Glenn Horne
- Recorder, Laura Morrison

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Councilor Madeira-Voss at 10:00am.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2024, BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED

3. PUBLIC INPUT:

- No public input

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Shana Vidito, SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) for the Western Zone presented on sexual assaults on campus.

- Working with RCMP and police to increase education in universities, colleges and schools.
- Many sexual assaults go undisclosed for various reasons, including it's a very personal matter, fear of retaliation, some believe it's 'not enough of an assault' to be reported, don't want to get perpetrator into trouble, don't believe anything would be done, may have reported it to others but not law enforcement, perpetrator may be well known on campus.

- Barriers to seeking medical help could be transportation, cost/insurance, fear of being made to report to police, fear of process, cultural/language barrier, academic concerns.
- Red Zone: more than 50% of sexual assaults on campus occur from August to November.
- SANE RN's (Registered Nurses) are specially trained to respond to on call coverage 24/7, 365 days per year. Response is for victims over 13 yrs of age. Under 13yrs of age are referred to IWK.
- SANE nurses use a Sexual Assault Evidence Kit (SAEK) provided by RCMP but it is only handed over with victims' approval.
- Sexual Violence Coordinator and Policy at Acadia, working on continuing education and to get the SANE service at the health centre in Acadia.
- All the information can be found on www.nshealth.ca/sane
- Province wide providers.
- Seeing a decrease in people coming to hospital from Acadia. Unsure of the reasons.
- Don't currently track reporting break down by whether on or off campus or what year of schooling they are in.
- Another challenge is insurance for international students doesn't start until end of October.
- Lot of opportunity for RCMP to work with SANE and speak with students in the fall and look at breaking down those barriers.

b. Policing Action Plan Priorities Discussion

- Traffic Safety:
 - increase road stops, especially May to October and during the day, assessment on crosswalk safety – ongoing review.
 - It is an offence for a pedestrian to cross the road without waiting to see if the cars will stop.
 - Pilot project was discussed for four-way stop having an officer in the crosswalk on Saturday for a few hours to see how it would work and if it would improve the situation.
 - Ops plans for FROSH week being reviewed with Acadia now.
 - Increase officer presence – foot patrols.
- Members will consider other priorities and email Travis.
- Discussion on Property Crime/Crime Prevention. Crime deterrents by environmental design – exterior lighting, alarm systems, video surveillance. Intelligence led policing for persons related crimes would be education, presentations by the RCMP to schools for example.

c. E-Scooters Regulation Enforcement Discussion

- Must be 16 years of age or older to ride e-scooter

- No-one wearing a helmet.
- Being dumped all over the town.
- Feedback to have docking stations or at least pick them all up at end of day.
- No go zones include Acadia University
- Maximum speed is slowed down in downtown area. Geo-fenced.

5. RCMP QUARTERLY REPORT

- First quarter under the MPSA.
- Three (3) vacancies out of nine (9) in the Town. Two (2) are soft vacancies which are long term medical leaves and cannot be backfilled. If an officer is absent for more than 30 days the Town can recover some financial costing. One vacancy is a hard vacancy which is not yet staffed but expecting new experienced officer starting August 7.
- Two hundred and sixty-seven (267) calls for service in Town, broken down as crimes against persons – sexual offences four (4), out of those three (3) victims declined to proceed any further. One (1) is proceeding to criminal charge.
- Extortion and intimidation category – threat of exposure of an intimate image.
- Property crime – one (1) break and enter miscategorized should be under mischief, frauds have to do with cyber crime, receiving false calls requesting money, majority is gift card fraud – almost untraceable when that happens.
- Mischief could be obstruction of enjoying of property, noise complaints, loud parties or damage to property such as a vehicle damage. This was in early April and involved university students all of whom received warnings. Expect that to increase in next quarter with new students coming in.
- Nothing from drug enforcement.
- Traffic enforcement categorized into different legislation, Liquor, MVA, Cannabis Act, sixty-three (63) total charges, thirty-seven (37) of those for excessive speed.
- It is an offence to have open cannabis in a car. It should unopened and out of reach of driver or in trunk – same as alcohol.
- Other, under the other category is anything that isn't categorized under Traffic, crimes against property or persons, it is usually assistance to other agencies, Fire, EHS, or someone under medical distress.
- Increased activity of Voyeurism around Prospect and Summer Streets. A male has been seen on fire escapes filming women getting undressed. Active investigation ongoing. Reviewing the Town's cameras. All happening in the evening. Mid to late June there have been three (3) incidents.
- Motion sensor lights - crime prevention by design.
- Bike patrols positive feedback from public would like to do more.
- Municipal bylaws under traffic would be a parking ticket.
- Unsure what the other bylaws violations is for, could be under Nuisance Bylaw or a noise complaint. Travis will check and advise members.

6. ROUND TABLE

- Discussion on financials.
- Benefit of Policing District Model, town is never without an officer, other members will respond to cover a vacancy.
- Under MPSA with any vacancy over 30 days there is a cost savings
- No time limit on long term medical leave but processes in place to assist officers back to work.
- Over two years for one vacancy is rare.
- Cpl. Collins will review the policies covering long term leave cover.
- Extra resources being brought in by RCMP no additional costs.

7. NEXT MEETING

- September 17, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 11:35am.

CARRIED

**Approved at RCMP Advisory Board Meeting September 2024.
As recorded by Laura Morrison, Town Clerk, Office of the CAO**