Hot Springs Village Public Safety Committee

Committee Activity Report for 2014/2015

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The Public Safety Committee was not established until September 25, 2014, at which time committee members were introduced to each other as well as: Gary Adams, the Chief of Police; Jason Miller, the Fire Department Chief; and POA Board Directors Harv Shelton and Frank Leeming. The Committee members consist of: Dennis Brown, Bert Cueva, Bill Etie, Tony Shields, and Jack Woodman. Bert Cueva was selected as the Chair and Jack Woodman was selected as the Vice Chair. The nature of the Committee’s duties and responsibilities were described as follows.

- Researching issues of concern provided by the Police and Fire Department Chiefs, and offering recommendations, if appropriate, for improvement or implementation of changes which would be beneficial to either or both Departments and the residents of Hot Springs Village.

- Review and evaluate any areas that relate to any form of public safety and provide recommendations for improvement or implementation, if appropriate.

- Conduct public meetings quarterly, which all interested persons may attend, and during which the activities of the Committee are described and discussed. Input from all persons attending the meeting are to be encouraged.

The Committee has had only two public meetings since it’s inception on September 25, 2014. These meetings occurred on December 4, 2014 and March 12, 2015, at the Coronado Center.

Activity and accomplishments:

- The Committee has taken over (from the Public Works Committee) the monthly gathering of Village traffic collision data and statistics, along with Committee recommendations, if any, for distribution to Public Works and the Police Department to assist in identifying and/or monitoring roadway and intersection concerns and needs, if any.

- Identifying roads and intersections that could benefit, for safety concerns, from modifications, and providing information relative to those areas of concern to the Public Works Director and Police Chief, for their consideration and recommendations.

- Identifying a location and funding for a new Police Station which is more suitably designed for law enforcement use, and more centrally located within the Village.

- Identifying Police Department equipment and ammunition needs and locating funding for same.
- Determining the continuous availability of ambulance service throughout the Village.

- Locating and acquiring a boat, motor, trailer, and personnel, to operate on all Village lakes. The purpose will be to assist boat operators and ensure that Village rules and State laws are complied with.

- Initiating a weekly article in the HSV Voice newspaper, through the courtesy of the Voice editor and staff, to disseminate safety information provided by the Village Police and Fire Departments. In the absence of that type of information, the Public Safety Committee will provide tips to help ensure the safety of all Village residents.

Future 2015 public meetings of the Public Safety Committee are scheduled for Thursday, June 11th, Thursday, September 10th, and Thursday, December 10th. All meetings will be held in Room #3 at the Coronado Center at 1:00 PM.