RCMP Advisory Board – Meeting Minutes

Date: February 5, 2018

Time: 5:15 PM

Location: Municipal Administration Centre

Present

Chair, Hughie Stewart Deputy Warden, County

Jack MacPherson Councillor, Town Laurie Boucher Mayor, Town

Diane Roberts Deputy Mayor, Town
Glenn Horne Municipal Clerk Treasurer

Shirlyn Donovan Strategic Initiatives Coordinator, County

Sgt. Warren McBeath RCMP Staff Sgt. Holly Glassford RCMP

Matt Whitehead Provincial Representative

Carrol MacAdam Member at Large Russel Nicols Member at Large Fred Bell Member at Large

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Deputy Warden Hughie Stewart called the meeting to order at 5:18PM

2. Deletions from the Agenda

The Committee agreed by consensus to delete the following item from the agenda:

 Chief PJ Prosper, Paqtnkek Mi'kmaw Nation – Congratulations and Discussions on priorities

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor MacPherson, seconded by C. MacAdam that the amended agenda be approved. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Roberts, seconded by R. Nicols that the September 14, 2017 minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

6. Sub-Committee Concerning Cannabis

Deputy Warden Stewart provided a document from the documentary Driving High which aired on Fifth Estate. The documentary was questioned the reliability of the DRE (Drug Recognition Expert) as a test for drug impairment. Currently there is no valid test to test for impairment by drugs.

Sgt. McBeath reviewed the training required to become a DRE Drug Recognition Expert and said that Nova Scotia will be hosting a course sometime in the upcoming year. There is currently only one DRE in the Antigonish Detatchment. The DRE Program is accepted by the courts here in Antigonish. If the officer has suspicion that a driver is under the influence of drugs they first test them for alcohol, and if that comes up negative but there are still signs of impairment, they can request a urine sample.

Councillor Stewart asked if there are a lot of people charged with driving while impaired by drugs. Sgt McBeath said 32 people were charged in 2017 with being impaired by drug or alcohol or refusal, of those 4 people were charged by impairment by drugs.

Staff Sgt. Glassford suggested that the Drug Recognition Expert come and present to this committee.

Sgt McBeath read an update from the Deputy Commissioner Steven White.

There was discussion on the meeting of the Cannabis Working Group. Shirlyn will circulate the notes from that meeting.

The group felt that there was no need for the Cannabis Working Group to continue meeting, that discussions can be held at the Joint Police Advisory Board meetings.

7. Consideration of Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference for the Committee were circulated at the last meeting for discussion this evening. Councillor Jack MacPherson suggested that each member take the oath at the next meeting.

Moved by Councillor Roberts and seconded by F. Bell that the Terms of Reference be adopted as presented.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled in March 1. The Town will chair the meeting.

10. Adjournment

On motion of Councillor Roberts and C. MacAdam the meeting was adjourned.