

Manitowoc Crime Prevention Committee Meeting November 7th, 2024

1) Roll Call: Brett Norell, Nicole Schleis, Violet Salley, Emily Longmeyer-Wolf, Steve Kleinfeldt, Rita Muench, Charles Rasmussen, Heather Buchko, Melia Prange, Logan Brooks, Ami Benzinger, Mason Benzinger, Bently Wessel, Cindy Hogan, SRO Joe McDonald & Sgt. Paul Krock.

Excused: Jackie LaBre, Haelee Tlachac, Lizzie Boss, April Eisenschink, Cari Jaeger

2) Minutes: Approved. 1st by Brett Norell. 2nd by Steve Kleinfeldt.

3) Treasurer Report: Approved. 1st Brett Norell. 2nd by Nicole Schleis.

4) Public Input: No public input.

5) Membership Matters: Bently Wessel was introduced as the Roncalli High School representative. Cindy Hogan was also welcomed as our newest citizen member on the Committee. One additional citizen position remains open.

6) TRIAD Update: Sgt. Krock reported that several TRIAD members plan to attend a presentation on email and phone scams at the Manitowoc Senior Center on Tuesday, November 12th at 10 am.

7) High School Members: Logan Brooks (Lutheran) – reported that school administration recently cracked down on missing work/assignments as well as vaping rumors. Also, girls Volleyball and boys Cross Country will be competing at State. Bently Wessel (Roncalli) – reported that the banquet for Fall sports recently took place and winter sports are now beginning. The Hello Dolly play will be performed next weekend. The school experienced some recent vandalism with students writing inappropriate messages on the windows of the school.

8) MTPD Update: Sgt. Krock reported that the MPPA Police Chase on Oct. 12th raised approximately \$2,500 for the K9 Memorial Statute. Officers recently completed 3rd Quarter Tactical Training which included the yearly firearms qualification. Police Department will have a float in the Holiday Parade with Officers and their families. Officers will be participating in Stuff the Squad at Pick ‘n Save (December 14th) and Shop with a Cop (December 5th). PD personnel also assisted with VP Candidate Tim Walz’s recent visit to Manitowoc.

9) MTSO Update: None.

10) SRO Update: SRO McDonald reported that he will be vacating the SRO role at Washington Middle School once this school year is complete. Northside DARE Graduation is being held November 26th. Second quarter has just begun, parent teacher conferences occurring next week. Habitual truancy citations are being issued for first semester. Student behaviors are being addressed at Washington Middle School (respect for adults/cellphones required to remain in lockers).

11) Citizens’ Academy/Alumni: Alumni meeting scheduled for next week. Applications for the 2025 Academy will be available mid-November, keep an eye on the city website and PD Facebook page. Weekly class evaluation forms were recently updated.

12) Healthiest Manitowoc County Substance Use Prevention Coalition: Emily reported that Sputnikfest & Elktoberfest utilized their festival tool kits; no underage drinking reported. HMCSUP participated in Trunk or Treat at MPL where 250 bags were distributed to adults which contained a lockable pill container. New Hidden in Plain Sight Backpacks were distributed to School Resource Officers in Manitowoc & Sheboygan County. Emergency overdose kits were distributed to 25+ organizations with over 60 business/HR professionals being trained to administer Naloxone. Working on preparation for reapplying for coalition funding/grants.

13) InCourage Update: Violet reported several support groups are currently meeting monthly; Women’s Trauma & Sexual Assault Survivor Circle. InCourage is hiring a Children’s Advocate and Volunteer Coordinator that will split their time between Sheboygan and Manitowoc due to a decrease in grant funding. Invites for the Domestic Chef fundraiser are being mailed out.

14) City Council Update: Alderperson Brett Norell reported that two firefighters along with two police officers recently renewed their oaths during the badge pinning ceremony at October’s Council Meeting. The parking ordinance on S. 9th St. near Lincoln High School was recently changed to allow drop off and pick up near the JFK. Several speed limits throughout the city are being changed. The yearly budget process is underway which includes new police radios and a new fire engine.

15) CPC Activities/Projects/Scams: Sgt. Krock reported that a law enforcement impersonator scam has recently victimized several citizens throughout Manitowoc. The scammer who claims to be “Sgt. Johnson” from the Manitowoc Sheriff’s Office is calling citizens informing them that they have a warrant for their arrest (missed jury duty, etc.) and to avoid arrest money must be sent via Bitcoin.

Old Business: Crime Prevention Annual Award feedback.

New Business: A scam alert billboard is being displayed throughout the city regarding recent bitcoin scams. Looking for other ways to get the Crime Prevention message out to the public. Anyone with ideas should let Sgt. Krock know.

16) Dates to remember: Next meeting **December 5th, 2024 at 6:30.**

17) Adjournment: 1st by Steve Kleinfeldt. 2nd by Brett Norell.

Minutes submitted by Sgt. Paul Krock.