



TOWN OF KENTVILLE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

**354 Main Street, Kentville Town Hall
May 19, 2023, 1:00 p.m.**

Present:

Commissioner Virginia Brooke, Commissioner Craig Gerrard, Commissioner Samantha Hamilton, Commissioner Jaimie Peerless, Commissioner Gillian Yorke (chair).

Staff present: Chief Jim Butler, Recording Secretary Jennifer West

Regrets:

None.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Gerrard and Commissioner Brooke that the agenda of May 19, 2023 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Gerrard and Commissioner Brooke that the minutes of the meeting held on April 26, 2023 be approved.

It was moved by Commissioner Gerrard and Commissioner Brooke that the minutes of the in camera meeting held on April 26, 2023 be approved.

MOTION CARRIED

4. CHIEFS REPORTS

Chief Butler reviewed reports with highlights including the role of the bylaw officer, parking tickets, smoking charges, race based data, wellness court, and community crisis navigator update.

Approved May 30, 2023

ACTION: The Chief should request that Ashley Ettinger report to the Commission about the progress of the CCN position.

Chief Butler reviewed the financial report, which showed increased support at CUPE strike locations, and a consistent number of calls. Finances are consistent with annual benchmark.

See reports for more information

5. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Community Engagement Results and Lessons Learned

Commissioner Yorke reviewed types of data and concerns from this event and discussion for how it can be applied in the board's work. Discussion of lessons learned. Disseminate more information then ask for feedback. Could have a website, annual mailouts, video series.

ACTION: Staff to consider a video series cartoon on the What is the PC? Who are your commissioners? Upcoming dates, public meetings, where. Try to target community groups?

ACTION: Staff to plan the next engagement session for the fall.

(b) Education and Training

Commissioners Yorke and Brooke attended the provincial board of police commissioners meeting. Discussion of national and provincial governance organizations. Discussion of participation in the national conference at Saint John's.

It was moved by Commissioner Brooke and Commissioner Gerrard

That the Kentville Board of Police Commissioners participate in the virtual conference of the 2023 Canadian Association of Police Governance conference.

MOTION CARRIED

Members also discussed full participation of the board at the 2024 CAPG conference in Halifax.

ACTION: Support member participation in the CAPG webinars.

(c) Additional Officer Program

Chief Butler described the need for an Additional Officer Program. The Department of Justice needs to make a decision on funding and positions for mid-level (street-level crime) team and sharing of resources between

It was moved by Commissioner Brooke and Commissioner Gerrard

That the Kentville Board of Police Commissioners will send a letter to the Minister of Justice advocating for the Additional Officers Program.

MOTION CARRIED

6. OLD BUSINESS

(a) Symbols on Uniforms

Commissioner Yorke reviewed the options for the Board to support either accept all symbols or support no symbols in the Kentville Police Service uniforms policy, which is enforced by the Chief of Police. Discussion about the enforcement of a policy around wearing symbols. Discussion of the meaning of symbols, and the meaning of the thin blue line symbol. Discussion of symbols that support communities that are protected by human rights legislation. Members express complete support for all first responders.

Chief Butler suggested adopting the draft policy on symbols for a set amount of time.

It was moved by Commissioner Gerrard and Commissioner Hamilton

That the Kentville Board of Police Commissioners direct the Chief revise the Uniform and Equipment Policy to reflect the wearing of symbols.

MOTION CARRIED

(b) Board Manual Review Plan

Commissioner Gerrard expressed the importance of a board manual to guide orientation and ongoing work for each commissioner and board.

ACTION: Commissioner Brooke will start a draft manual to bring back to the Board.

This item will be added to the agenda as ongoing business.

It was moved by Commissioner Brooke and Commissioner Hamilton

That the Kentville Board of Police Commissioners move into a closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

MOTION CARRIED

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to discuss, it was moved that the meeting adjourn at 3:44 pm.