



City of Groton, Connecticut

Police and Community Together (PACT) Committee Minutes

Groton Heights Baptist
Church
72 Broad St
Groton CT 06340

6:00 PM

Thursday, August 25, 2022

I. ROLL CALL

Present were Mayor Keith Hedrick, Chief Eric Jenkins, Captain Patricia Leteau, Sally Turner, Rev. Lee Ireland, Doris Pulaski, Juliette Parker, Frank Jennette, Jill Rusk, Christina Gore, Pastor John Coleman, Gary Trahan, Lucille Trahan, Tonya Darnell, and Pastor Bruce Peterson. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the June 16, 2022 Minutes by Frank Jennette, seconded by Gary Trahan and Pastor Coleman. The motion passed unanimously.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mobile Meetings

Chief Jenkins spoke to progress made on concerns expressed by the public at the previous meeting in the Eastern Point area. Some sign issues are being addressed. Speed control set ups have been installed on Eastern Point Road.

This second mobile meeting is centered on concerns of City of Groton churches.

A third mobile meeting, centered on concerns of City of Groton business community, will be scheduled.

B. Investigations

The people arrested for the robbery that occurred in March on the defense access highway are now in court.

Rewards have now been offered for information about the December 2021 murder that occurred on Bridge Street.

C. Cameras

**PACT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
AUGUST 25, 2022**

The Committee of the Whole authorized the acceptance of the grant for four cameras as a nuclear safety grant. The cameras will monitor evacuation routes on Thomas Road and Shennecossett Road, and the Defense Access Highway for traffic blockages.

D. COVID Test Kits/N95 Masks

The city still has some test kits and about 2,800 N95 masks available.

E. Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are still needed for the food distributions that occur at St. John's Church on the fourth Friday of each month from 12:30 to 2:00 PM

IV. CHIEF UPDATE

The July fireworks went off well. There was a smaller crowd than usual.

Officer Cardell and Youth Officer Stephanie de Vito (Contrares) are teaching DARE class.

Groton City Day in August was well attended.

At least 175 Backpacks were handed out at Pastor Coleman's church to kindergarten to eighth grade students.

On September 15, demonstrations on correct installation and fitting of child safety seats will occur at the police station.

Brandegee Avenue has been repaved. The better quality road surface has led to speeding.

Poquonnock Road is still being worked on.

There were 13 assaults, 6 missing persons reports, 2 robberies, 13 intoxicated persons (6 were the same person), 3 burglaries (one of a car), the Groton Congregational sign was vandalized, and 5 armed persons were reported. (Wacky guns and pellet guns still count as armed person reports.)

There was a fire on a submarine in dry-dock, due to a welding issue. Everything went smoothly, due to recent fire drill practice.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Questions from the public:

Christina Gore and Tanya Darnell reported that the area around 14 Morse Avenue is being impacted by military personnel assigned to EF parking there on both sides of the road, making it impossible to leave some houses. The military are dropped off there after work by their shuttle van to pick up their cars. Also, the snowplows were impeded. A suggestion was made that the

**PACT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
AUGUST 25, 2022**

street have resident parking only areas on it. It was also suggested that a complaint be lodged by the city with their Commanding Officer.

A discussion of the role of police chaplains occurred. Reverend Bruce Peterson is in the process of becoming qualified to be a police chaplain. Reverend John Coleman is already a police chaplain. Reverend Lee Ireland has not chosen to become one at this time.

Reverend Ireland, Sally Turner, and Doris Pulaski asked what the correct process was to obtain active shooter training for Groton Congregational Church. One should call the police dispatch center and ask for Detective Sergeant Wankelman. United Church of Christ churches around the state have been suffering attacks of different sorts from vandals, such as the destruction of Groton Congregational's sign. Reverend Ireland suggested that the police proactively monitor other UCC churches and mosques as election day nears. Chief Jenkins responded that the police representative will discuss security systems and strategies with the church's representative.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Doris Pulaski, seconded by Christina Gore, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.