

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE NOTES

February 9, 2022

9:30 AM via MICROSOFT TEAMS

Committee Chair Dr. McKee opened the meeting by recapping the purpose of the committee. He then recalled a large on-campus anti-police protest that he attended last spring as an observer. He called for more input going forward from those with an ear to the ground so that we can foster a better mutual understanding between the Department of Public Safety and the university community. Dr. Moll stated more student participation on the committee would be much appreciated and asked the student representatives in the meeting to reach out to other student groups to solicit participation, especially since many of the students involved on the committee may be leaving at the end of the semester.

Dr. McKee also reminded committee members that a new Chair should be elected at the April meeting if there are other members willing to serve in that capacity.

The first topic discussed was the university's sexual assault education and prevention initiatives. Dr. Moll described the self-defense program that OSUPD has offered for many years and noted the name of the program would be changed this year to Empowerment and Self-Defense. It was formerly called Rape Aggression Defense (RAD), but OSUPD's instructors have adapted the program over the years into more of a series of empowerment and self-defense workshops rather than teaching the traditional RAD curriculum. Dr. Moll said OSU DPS only provides this one program, which is applicable to a variety of incidents and situations. She explained there is a larger network of programming and initiatives at the university that focus specifically on the topic of sexual assault. Most of the sexual assault education and prevention programs are coordinated by other offices. Dr. Moll said she would consult with the communications team about which programs are highlighted when providing safety information to the university community, and how the self-defense course is marketed. She wanted to address the concern that the self-defense course was the only program mentioned in a recent safety communication. This could lead some to conclude they were most at risk of being victimized by an act of aggression by a stranger, when more often the perpetrators of certain crimes such as sexual violence are people known to the victim. Additionally, she indicated the self-defense course has historically been marketed primarily to women, and DPS this year would begin marketing it to other groups who may be interested in the training. Dr. Moll then introduced Molly Peirano and Courtney Johnson from the Office of Institutional Equity. They reviewed for committee members a list of all of the programming offered by the university that is related to the prevention of sexual misconduct.

Dan Hedman gave a recap of the results of last spring's survey of students about their perceptions of safety. The survey results can be found at this link:

https://ap.osu.edu/sites/default/files/2021_the_ohio_state_university_campus_safety_survey_report.pdf

Dr. Moll reviewed the Neighborhood Safety Notices, Public Safety Notices and Buckeye Alerts sent in calendar year 2021. There were 33 Neighborhood Safety Notices, 3 Public Safety Notices and 3 Buckeye Alerts issued. She also reviewed crime statistics for the University District and noted off-campus crime has dropped significantly in those neighborhoods since September. Dan Hedman noted the dissatisfaction with Neighborhood Safety Notices in general by many in the community, for a variety of different and sometimes opposing reasons. Feedback from students has indicated many would appreciate seeing crime information displayed visually on a crime map. Dr. Moll reminded committee

members that in a previous committee meeting, Dan Hedman displayed the city's crime mapping tool and demonstrated the feature that allows users to sign up for email crime alerts tailored to their needs/interests. This is one option for disseminating off-campus crime information that university leadership is considering. Dr. Moll said she hoped to have an update on this topic at the April meeting.

Next Dr. Moll presented an overview of key recommendations she expected to receive soon in a final report from Security Risk Management Consultants (SRMC). SRMC is an independent consulting firm that was asked to evaluate the recent security enhancements and safety initiatives that the university and city have partnered on to reduce crime in the University District off-campus. Since the PSAC meeting, the final report was released. The full SRMC report and summary information about their recommendations can be found at these links:

<https://news.osu.edu/external-safety-expert-reviews-off-campus-safety-efforts/>

https://dps.osu.edu/sites/default/files/offcampus_safety_report.pdf

Dr. Moll discussed the new diversity training module that all officers in OSUPD are attending this year. OSUPD instructors partnered with the Kirwan Institute to develop the training. Dr. Moll and her division directors would like to eventually adapt the training module to expand it to all divisions in OSU DPS. The training begins with an overview of the history of policing that focuses specifically on the policing of Black Americans. Attendees thus far have provided positive feedback about the course. The Kirwan Institute would like to evaluate the training by adding pre and post tests and will offer a donation to the Michael Blankenship Fund for every officer who participates in the testing.

Finally, Dr. Moll mentioned OSUPD is still hiring. The police officer position was posted recently and will be open for applications through March 6. OSUPD has an authorized strength of 70 police officers (up to and including the Chief of Police), and they estimate they have about 7 more officers to hire to reach that level of staffing. DPS also currently has openings for full-time security officers and student Campus Service Officer positions.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13 at 9:30 a.m.

Attendees: Jeffrey McKee, Monica Moll, Margaret Bussard, Kimberly Spears-McNatt, Tracy Hahn, Bob Armstrong, Doug McGrew, Mike Mandelkorn, Adam Featherling, Joanna Shaul, Dan Hedman, Amy Young, Paul Bellair, Simone Drake, Micah Berman, Teya LeBlanc-Hill, Marek Greer, Yolanda Zepeda, Moetiz Samad, Ben Walberg, Kelly Smith, Christopher Taylor, Jack Tumulty.

PSAC Chat Notes 02.09.22

[2/9/2022 9:58 AM] Zepeda, Yolanda
Congratulations, Molly. That sounds like a terrific opportunity!

[2/9/2022 9:58 AM] LeBlanc-Hill, Teya
congratulations!

[2/9/2022 10:00 AM] Zepeda, Yolanda
Great info--thank you Molly and Courtney

[2/9/2022 10:07 AM] Hedman, Dan

https://ap.osu.edu/sites/default/files/2021_the_ohio_state_university_campus_safety_survey_report.pdf

[2/9/2022 10:23 AM] Hedman, Dan

CRIME MAP TEST:

<https://communitycrimemap.com/?address=29%2CWoodruff%2CAve%20Columbus%20OH%2C43210&crimeTypes=%5b7,8,11%5d&zoom=15&radius=1>

LexisNexis® Community Crime Map

[2/9/2022 11:01 AM] Zepeda, Yolanda

Thanks for your work and this informative meeting.

[2/9/2022 11:41 AM]

2/9/2022 11:41 AM Meeting ended: 2h 19m