

**CHESHIRE PRISON ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

CHESHIRE POLICE DEPARTMENT
500 HIGHLAND AVENUE
CHESHIRE CT 06410

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2015

Committee Members Present: Representing the Town of Cheshire: Joseph Holstein. From the Correctional Institutions: Thomas Hunt, Lauren Powers and Bryan Viger. Representing the Cheshire Police Department: Jeff Sutherland.

Guest Present: Chief Jack Casner, Cheshire Fire Department.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Lt. Sutherland.

Roll Call: Roll was called. There was no quorum present.

Pledge of Allegiance: The assembled body saluted the flag. Introductions were made.

Acceptance of May 4, 2015 Minutes: No vote was taken due to the lack of a quorum.

Lt. Sutherland requested a change in the agenda, to allow Chief Casner's status report on the Fire School to be presented prior to the Facilities Updates. The attendees approved.

Update on Fire School:

Jack Casner, Chief of the Cheshire Fire Department (CFD), provided an update on the Cheshire Regional Fire School and distributed a portfolio report from the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) – Connecticut State Fire Fighters Education Committee update meeting on 7/29/2015.

The short list of developers was selected 6/15. The current timeline lists the RFP in final stages of development, anticipate 11/15 RFP issued to short listed developers. Construction anticipated 10/16 with a contract substantial completion date of 12/17. Chief Casner stated that the schedule has continued to change. There is \$12.5M in the budget to build the Fire School. This project needs to go through the State Bonding Commission.

Chief Casner shared the Conceptual Site Plan for the Cheshire Regional Fire School with the committee, which includes a 3 story burn building and a 4 story burn tower. Director Powers asked if the Fire School would be used after hours. Chief Casner replied the facility will primarily be used in the evenings and on the weekends, however there should be little noise and smell. A berm will be built, and if needed a sound barrier. The burn building is a Class "A" building, which will smell like a fire place when burning. They have received little opposition from the community.

Chief Casner had previously spoken with Glenn Noffsinger, former Plant Facility Manager, about Department of Corrections (DOC) use of the fire school facilities for training (SWAT, rappelling, etc.); in kind, DOC would plow the Fire School driveway.

Chief Casner left the meeting at 5:13 p.m.

Update on the Cheshire Facilities:

Bryan Viger, Deputy Warden of the Cheshire Correctional Institution (CCI) and Cheshire Annex, reported a census of 1370. They are still holding training sessions on Wednesdays and will be starting training on Fridays. They notify the Cheshire Police Department when training is occurring. They also post signs to notify the public. There were no significant inmate incidents or issue. There was a notable arrest – a Corrections Officer was charged with possession of child pornography and other charges. That officer resigned this morning.

Thomas Hunt, Deputy Warden of the Manson Youth Institution (MYI), reported a census of 575 inmates. There have been no significant incidents or issues. Deputy Warden Hunt asked about the detour/closure of Peck Lane. Lt. Sutherland replied that the detour/closure will continue until August 14th. Deputy Warden Hunt will notify their staff of this detour.

Lauren Powers, Director of the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development, reported their most recent class of 190 graduated at Central Connecticut State University on June 12, 2015. That class is reporting to their assignments. The next class is expected to start in September or October, and will have a size of 150 or more participants. When training classes are lower than 160, training will occur during first shift. When a class exceeds 160-170, they will hold training during 1st and 2nd shift. They expect to continue to hold graduation at Central Connecticut State University with current class sizes.

Old Business:

Linear Park Trail Expansion: Lt. Sutherland reported that the Linear Trail expansion at Peck Lane should be completed in the fall. Because of the remote area, they will have security cameras placed in the parking lot and on the trail. The completion of the remaining expansion to the Southington line may take two more years to complete.

FBI Training Program: The Cheshire Police Department (CPD) hosted a week long Abducted Child Training program in early June. The training was facilitated by the FBI Abducted Child Task Force, and covered the steps that needed to be taken and resources available. The program ended with a full day simulation. Seven CPD Officers participated, in addition to other local municipalities and State Police. Lt. Sutherland thanked Director Powers for the use of the Maloney Center for this program.

New Business:

Deputy Warden Viger commented that CCI has received calls from the CPD requesting advice on cell extraction of certain prisoners. Deputy Warden Viger encouraged the CPD to utilize their facility and grounds for any training and utilize the DOC's experience. Director Powers has worked with several Police Departments on these situations; DOC can help provide training in this area.

Mr. Holstein asked about the status of the Correction Officers who were injured at their facilities. Deputy Warden Viger reported that 2 of the officers are back to full inmate contact duty with no issues. The third officer retired. Deputy Warden Hunt reported their officer was also back to full duty with no issues.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m. No vote was taken due to the lack of a quorum.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 2, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cheshire Police Department, 500 Highland Avenue, Cheshire.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathy Kirby
Recording Clerk