

Latino Advisory Committee

April 7th, 2023

7:30 A.M.

In attendance: Justin Martinez, DC Gutierrez, Tanya Bowie, Andrea Tillinghast, Tobias Guzman Wayne Syas, Adolph Diaz, Mike Salazar, Maria Garcia, Barb Lessman, Sandi Elder, Chief Turk and DC Zeller

Chief called the meeting to order at 7:32.

Chief Adam Turk:

- 1) LAC By-Laws – We are going to revamp the by-laws. Those will go out to members before the next meeting.
- 2) Welcome New Members – We have two new members, Tanya Bowie and Maria Garcia.
- 3) Introduce Guests – Pastor Wayne
- 4) Grand Jury OIS – At our last meeting we talked about an officer involved shooting. The case went to the grand jury and the decision was to not indict the officer. The officer has not worked for GPD since the incident. The day of the incident was his last day with the PD, he had gotten a new job.
- 5) Downtown/Homelessness (Armed Security company, CWS) – This company has started, the true effect will be felt/seen when the cold weather shelter closes in April. The thought is to have the presence of the security company for citizen and visitor of Greeley. We don't have the staffing to have officers downtown fulltime.

Barb Lessman – Will NAT still be downtown?

Chief Turk - NAT will continue to work downtown. They have many jobs other than downtown so this will help them focus on other areas of need.

Tobias Guzman – What's their approach?

Chief Turk - They are not cops they are there for a presence, a sense of security and to assist before the need for an officer. We've given them some hot spots we want them to focus on.

Tobias Guzman – Who does oversight?

Chief Turk – The company's name is Precision out of Ft. Collins. We work with their leadership. When they started, we did some onboarding, laid out our expectations.

DC Zeller – Our Neighborhood Action Team sergeant works directly with them, and then I have a direct line to their management. So, the police department is managing that contract.

Chief Turk - The company has started going into the downtown businesses to build relationships. It's all about relationships. They are not cops and I don't want the businesses to try to use this company in place of officers. They are another resource, so retraining may be in order.

Justin Martinez – Do you think the homeless numbers will grow if we start building housing for homeless?

Chief Turk – I do believe that if you offer housing they will come. This summer will be a big test for the City's plans.

Sandi Elder – I serve on the Weld Trust Board as well and they are working on a model for vetting people and resources.

Chief Turk – We're not going to solve homelessness.

Barb Lessman – What about the development out behind the Rodarte Center?

Chief Turk – It's going to be a sort of transitional housing to help the homeless.

It's being led by Jody Hartman; they are waiting for grant funding.

- 6) Axon Technology – BWC, drones – we are looking at giving our officers more tools, we invested in signal sidearm and signal vehicle. This will activate the camera when certain things happen. There is a sensor in their holster that when the gun is pulled the camera will turn on. We have seen success with the holsters. We haven't moved forward with the vehicles; we're still waiting for our new vehicles which, are already behind by about 23 vehicles.

Deputy Chief Mike Zeller:

- 1) ABLE – The latest update – Currently the officers are going through the training to learn the skills to intervene if they see something with regards to their peers. We were one of the first 17 agencies to activate this program. We have trained the trainers, so now we will start training the officers. We've had 2 training sessions and so far, we have heard positive feedback.

Chief Turk – We are training people to watch and intervene when necessary.

DC Gutierrez – The training gives officers intervening strategies for officers interacting with citizens as well as peers. They train empowerment and officer wellness. It was a really good class.

Chief Turk – We've been trained that the backup is just that. So, we are now retraining how situations are being approached.

- 2) Operations Update – 13 people in field training – trainers are doing a great job and it's a tough job for our officers. We have a Special Enforcement team that goes after career criminals. We had to temporarily reassign those officers, and we are now able to bring that unit back.
- 3) We are looking at the sectors that officers work. We can expand what we currently have, or we can have more, smaller areas, so officers can get to know residents and businesses, more of a community policing. I would like to see that happen so we can reconnect with neighborhoods.

Mike Salazar – The growth of Greeley is really moving fast isn't it.

Chief Turk – Our job is to look at the city growth with regards to staffing. We are now looking at a substation out West because of the growth of Greeley. We must strategize and forecast the growth of Greeley and what the needs will be.

Deputy Chief Gutierrez:

- 1) 30X30 Initiative – A project that is gaining traction to try to support women in this profession. Targeting goal of hiring women. We will look at our policies to make sure there are no biases, and we will work this into to our hiring strategies as well.
- 2) Hiring Update – 8 cadets in the academy. We are also completing a process for the next academy in August. Training and personnel are doing a great job.
- 3) Services Update

- i. RTCC – Real Time Crime Center – Centralizing a camera system and other technology. We are working with Public Works to put this together. We’re in the process of looking at what we’ll need to put this together. This is one of the projects that Chief is working on for the future.
 - ii. Chief Turk – We’ve done a really good job buying technologies, but we are not using them appropriately. So now we are looking to manage the technology, so it is used to its best purpose and the RTCC is the way to go.
- 4) Auto Theft Task Force – We’ve been working a group that has been involved in a crime string along the Front Range. Yesterday, we arrested 2 of the 3 suspects that we have been looking for.
- Mike Salazar - There was a meeting last time we met, how did that go?
 - DC Gutierrez – I don’t have the stats, but we have good results after each operation.

RoundTable

Sandi Elder – Introduced herself.

The by-laws need to be revamped and maybe we select a new Chair.

Barb Lessman – United Way April 14th is the last night for the cold weather shelter.

Chief Turk - The Goal is to a have year-round shelter.

Tobias Guzman – A lot going on in the month of April at UNC. 5-8k people come through the university during summer.

Pastor Wayne – What was the idea of inviting in the faith-based community. From what I can see you already have faith-based representation.

Chief Turk – I would like the opportunity to present to religious organizations to get the word out for community policing. This would give us another mechanism for us get out into the community and engage more with our community.

DC Zeller – Last year we started a Faith in Blue weekend. We are hoping that grows in the coming year.

DC Gutierrez – Faith based leaders can give more of an outreach that we have a difficult time getting to.

Adolph Diaz – May 12th migrant fiesta partners meet with 15 school districts to help provide scholarships for the children of migrant families. 6pm Valley HS

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 a.m.