

**MINUTES**  
**Joint Police Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**September 5, 2019, 5:00-6:30**  
**City Hall, First Floor Conference Room**

**JPAC Members in attendance:** Chief Powers, Chief Pyle, Ron Lucas, Jackie Wolf, Liesl Gyurko, Jordyn Zimmerman, Toby Stock, Kim Castor, Chad Barnhardt, Sarah Grace, Karen Dahn, Maria Modayil, Barb Harrison

**1. JPAC BBQ**

The annual JPAC BBQ will take place September 18, 5-7, in front of Baker Center. Kaisers is for dinner + a vegetarian selection + ice cream.

We will invite 1804 to have a presence at the BBQ. Kim Miller is part of a group that hosts difficult conversations and she also wants to have a presence at the BBQ: Open Ohio is her group. But she wants to have a “difficult conversation” at the BBQ and we agreed that this BBQ is not the forum for that type of exercise. We noted that JPAC can sponsor a difficult conversation event with law enforcement in the future. The BBQ is for informal, not formal, conversation.

**Chad** needs a blurb from 1804 to go on the Baker screen to advertise the BBQ.

**2. T-Shirts**

T-shirts have been ordered by **Liesl**. The set-up fee has been paid, so new members can now just call and order the shirt.

**3. Banners**

The banner enforcement strategy has been effective. On Wednesday-Saturday of move-in week, the banners were policed. There were only eight incidents of banners that needed to come down and they were removed based on the Athens sign ordinance. All residents must have a sign permit to hang a banner and that includes banners with positive messages. **Chief Powers** noted that some populations find it an enjoyable challenge to hang banners and keep them up as long as possible. **Jordyn** told us that Student Senate condemned the banners at a meeting last night. Note: the city cannot deny a permit to hang a banner due to a particular message, no matter how offensive the

message. It's the sign ordinance that is being enforced; messages are not being censored.

#### **4. JPAC Membership**

Official welcome to **Liesl**

#### **5. Roundtable**

**Liesl** asked if tables at the BBQ are limited. (Yes.) She mentioned that Walk for Recovery is coming up; Super Hero 5K is coming up. She noted that we can put on JPAC shirts and march in community parades. She asked if we want to reach out to students' parents through social media.

**Kim:** There will be a documentary screening of Start by Believing on 9/19 with a panel discussion after. The film highlights the survivor-centered process. Drea Kelly will be on campus October 24.

**Maria** will help with social media.

**Barb:** Community ambassadors came back early this year and welcomed students at the armory. The event was sparsely attended. Ambassadors went into neighborhoods on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and noted no banners--the banners came out Friday. Most students seemed to move in midweek, later than expected.

**Karen** has observed students having quiet evening activities when she walks her dog. She suggested having a meeting to discuss future plans/programs.

**Toby:** What is the completion date for the Richland Avenue project? **Ron:** at least two more weeks.

**Sarah** has been added to some west side FB pages talking about crimes on the west side. The undercurrent conversation on social media is that the west side is not as safe as the rest of Athens and the city doesn't care. There is a feeling among west-side residents of discontent and being neglected. **Chief Pyle** is happy to sit down with the West Side Neighborhood Association and talk about safety and crime data. He begins these kinds of conversations with, "What are your expectations?" **Sarah** asked about the recurring peeping Tom issue and **Chief Pyle** said that no one has reported a peeping Tom to the police department. The majority of the city's thefts take place on Court St. and in Walmart. The police can't do anything if people don't report crimes. **Ron** said it would be good to have a JPAC presence at the westside BBQ on September 27.

**Chief Powers:** The OUPD will host its annual recognition ceremony on 9/10 at 7 pm in Walter Hall Rotunda.

**Ron** encouraged JPAC members to have an email conversation about social media in the next couple weeks.

**Next JPAC meeting:** Thursday October 3 at 5 pm.