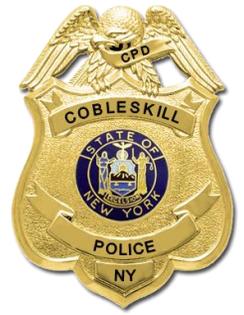




Cobleskill Police Department

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Chief of Police Jeffery Brown

Citizens Advisory Board Minutes

December 9, 2021, 6 pm

Chairman John O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 5:59 pm, noting that all board members had arrived. Present were CAB members Wendy Cook, Patricia Mesibov, John O'Donnell, John Sapovits, John Stiles, Police Chief Jeffery Brown, Mayor Rebecca Stanton-Terk, Recording Clerk Dorothy Gerdes, and three community members.

The minutes of the September 16, 2021 meeting, which had been distributed by email, were reviewed, and one correction was made to a typographical error in the last paragraph regarding the Bylaws. The mistyped word "my" was corrected to "by." Mayor Terk moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Chief Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The CAB had asked the Village Board of Trustees to review the CAB Bylaws concerning eligibility of appointed members. The Mayor reported that the Board affirmed the eligibility requirements as adopted in the Bylaws.

Members discussed Article II, Section 2.11 in the Bylaws pertaining to terms and term limits on the CAB, developing a method to rotate appointed members to achieve continuity as terms expire. The CAB recommended to the Village Board of Trustees that two current appointed members serve for one year, leaving three current appointed members (including the Chair and the Vice Chair) to serve for two years. Patricia Mesibov volunteered to serve one year and John Sapovits was selected at random to serve one year; both would be eligible to be appointed for a new two-year term at the end of their first term. It was also recommended to the Board of Trustees that appointed members, after serving two consecutive two-year terms, could be reappointed to a new term after one year.

Article V, Section 5.4, requiring an annual report to be submitted to the Village Board of Trustees by December 15 of each year, will be initiated on December 15, 2022. This section was also cited for a possible typographical error that references the CAB as the Citizen Policy Advisory Board, where "Policy" would be corrected to "Police."

The Mayor was asked about Article III, Section 3.6, about Open Public Meetings. The CAB requested that approved minutes of meetings be posted on the Village website. The Mayor replied that the Village Clerk announces the CAB meetings to the County IT department to be published on the official website.

The members reviewed the CAB's assignment on the topic of Use of Force in the Village's EO203 Plan, deciding that the entire board would assume the work of investigating the intricacies and effects certain language changes might make: [useOfForcePolicy.pdf \(schohariecounty-ny.gov\)](#). Members will review the policy and Wendy Cook will lead and guide email discussions about the policy before the next meeting. Other references regarding the topic may be found at [Police Use of Force | Policy Positions & Resources | Lexipol](#) (useofforce.lexipol.com), [8 Can't Wait \(8cantwait.org\)](#), and [Campaign Zero](#) (campaignzero.org).

The CAB continues to address the issues expressed by SUNY students as they interact with the Cobleskill Community. Patricia Mesibov will ask Derwin Bennett for an update, and the Mayor will set a meeting with the SUNY President.

The CAB will meet four times in 2022. The next meeting is Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Subsequent meetings will be scheduled in July, October, and December.

The Chief's monthly Board of Trustees Report has been shared with CAB members over the last few months. The CAB would like to see more statistical reports in order to perceive trends. Police agencies report Uniform Crime Reporting data monthly to the Department of Criminal Justice Services. The Chief recommended the following websites for further data:

- FBI Crime Explorer (UCRs):<<https://crime-data-explorer.app.cloud.gov/pages/home>>
- DCJS Index Crimes 2016-2020 by County & Agency:
<https://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/crimnet/ojsa/indexcrimes/county_totals.htm>
- OCA-STAT Act Report:<<http://ww2.nycourts.gov/oca-stat-act-31371>>

At the Mayor's Forum on 11/28/2020, citizens expressed concern about dealing with excessive speed in the village, among other issues. The Mayor and the Chief are working on identifying deterrents to speeding. Village roadways have a universal 30-mile-per-hour speed limit. It was suggested that some of the Village's shorter side roads might be evaluated and legislated to a lower speed limit.

The Chief was asked about repeat traffic violators who don't show up at court. The court determines the fines and penalties for traffic violations and for no-shows.

John Stiles moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm. Seconded by Patricia Mesibov. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Gerdes
Secretary to the Chief of Police