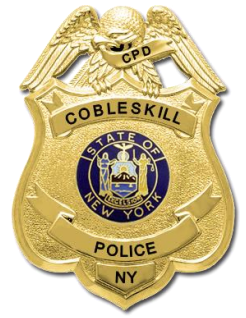




# Cobleskill Police Department

378 Mineral Springs Road  
Cobleskill NY 12043  
(518) 234-2923



Chief of Police Jeffery Brown

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## Citizens Advisory Board Minutes

April 13, 2022, 6 pm

Chairman John O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm. Present were CAB members Wendy Cook, Patricia Mesibov, John O'Donnell, John Sapovits, John Stiles, Police Chief Jeffery Brown, Lieutenant Justin Manchester, Mayor Rebecca Stanton-Terk, Recording Clerk Dorothy Gerdes, and three community members. The Mayor welcomed guests from SUNY Cobleskill: College President Dr. Marion Terenzio, Chief Diversity Officer & Executive Director of Educational Support Derwin Bennett, and Vice President for Student Development Dr. Anne Hopkins Gross.

The minutes of the December meeting, which had been distributed by email, were reviewed, and one correction was made to the sixth paragraph regarding the announcement of the CAB meetings on the Village website. The Village Clerk announces the meetings to the County IT department to be published on the official website. Pat Mesibov moved to accept the minutes as corrected. John O'Donnell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### College and the Community

The CAB and the Mayor are working with Dr. Terenzio and senior SUNY staff to the reinvigorate relationship between the Village of Cobleskill and the college now that many of the pandemic restrictions have ended.

- Dr. Terenzio announced that students feel welcome in the village.
- SUNY will open the Unity Center in the fall as an inclusive meeting and activity center to provide opportunities for students and community members to interact. Anne Hopkins Gross and Derwin Bennett are the contact persons for the Unity Center.
- Students are eager to serve the village community through individual service and community projects.
- SUNY University Police Department (UPD) offers a 10-week course called "Citizens Police Academy," that strives to promote a better understanding of the work done by police and to encourage law enforcement careers.
- Cobleskill Police Department (CPD) will again offer "Coffee with a Cop."
- CPD is going to open a ride-along program to promote a better understanding of police work and to acquaint participants to the village jurisdiction.
- The CAB is encouraging a condensed version of the "Citizens Police Academy" for the community, facilitated by Chief Brown and Chief Bialkowski (UPD).

After the discussion of College and the Community, the three guests from SUNY were excused from the remainder of the meeting.

### CAB By-Laws

The Mayor took suggestions for further edits to the CAB By-Laws. Members agreed by consensus to several minor edits. A revised final version will be approved at the next meeting.

### **Executive Order 203**

- John O'Donnell commended Chief Brown on his 25-page report, "Campaign Zero's '8 Can't Wait' Recommendations, the NAACP's Effective Law Enforcement Campaign Goals, and Cobleskill PD's Relevant Policies," prepared for the Village of Cobleskill Citizen Advisory Board in March 2022.
- DUTY TO INTERCEDE. Wendy Cook had reviewed Policy 300.2.1 and proposed a revision for consideration. Chief Brown agreed that the revision would improve the policy and better reconcile with the personnel complaint policy. The proposed revision was accepted by consensus.
- UNIFORM TRAFFIC TICKETS and enforcement policies. The matter was tabled to the next meeting.
- CORRESPONDENCE: Chairman O'Donnell received an email (copied by sender to the Chief) from a citizen regarding use of force. The Chief has since spoken directly to the citizen and the matter appears to be resolved to the citizen's satisfaction.

### **New Business**

- Mental Health. John Sapovits, John Stiles, and Chief Brown addressed issues of mental health, as officers face subjects with mental health issues and may professionally experience situations that challenge their own mental health. The officers are trained to handle subjects with issues, and though there may be situations that could be handled more judiciously with support from a mental health professional, the expanded local community does not have sufficient resources to employ such a person. The department has counseling available for officers if needed.
- Police/Community Relations. As outlined above, CPD will be offering "Coffee with a Cop" and the ride-along program and will be working with UPD and SUNY administration on good community/police/college relationships.
- Excessive Speed and Vehicle Noise. Different devices for excess speed deterrence are being evaluated for their usefulness and cost.

### **Next Meeting**

Chairman O'Donnell is setting a tentative quarterly meeting schedule for the third Wednesday of July, October, January, and April going forward. The next meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Board will be Wednesday, July 20, at 6:00 pm, at 378 Mineral Springs Road, Cobleskill.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Gerdes  
Secretary to the Chief of Police