

# Village of Cobleskill Police Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)

## MINUTES

Wednesday, April 19, 2023 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman O'Donnell. Present were CAB members Wendy Cook, Patricia Mesibov, John O'Donnell, John Sapovits, Police Chief Justin Manchester, Mayor Rebecca Stanton-Terk, three community members, one journalist, and Recording Clerk Dorothy Gerdes.

The Chairman welcomed all present and expressed condolences for former Police Chief Officer Jeffery Brown on the loss of his mother. The Chairman read the Citizens Advisory Board Statement of Purpose: "The purpose of the Village of Cobleskill Police Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) is to provide the Police Department and the Police Chief with the community's perspective with respect to crime, safety, neighborhood issues, and how the Police Department can better integrate with the community it serves and improve its services."

The draft minutes of the November 16, 2022, meeting were reviewed, and one correction was made in Old Business that the CAB's review of the CPD Use of Force Policy will continue beyond 2022. Motion to approve the minutes with one correction was made by Mayor Terk and seconded by Wendy Cook. Motion carried unanimously.

### OLD BUSINESS:

- The Mayor and the Chief of Police reported on status of speed and vehicle monitoring devices:
  - One device has been moved from North Street to MacArthur Avenue west of Mallard Lane to monitor westbound traffic. The street was chosen as one where citizens have expressed concern over excessive speed.
  - One device has had technical difficulties and parts are ordered under the purchase warranty.
  - One device will be installed on Elm Street (State Route 10) as soon as New York State approves the permit.

### NEW BUSINESS/CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Chairman filed the Citizens Advisory Board Annual Report with the Village Clerk on 12/12/2022.
- The Chairman issued a press release about CAB accomplishments on 02/15/2023.
- CAB member John Stiles has resigned. The Mayor has begun the process of recruiting a new member.
- The Leberge group has been engaged by the county to study sharing services between the Sheriff's Office and the Cobleskill Police Department.

- The Chief of Police is hopeful that the department can be returned to full staffing and 24-hour service. At present eight full-time officers provide village patrol during the hours of 7 AM to 1 AM; full staffing would be twelve. The Village Board of Trustees (VBOT) has approved the hiring of Travis Slater, who has completed Phase 1 training and will complete Phase 2 on May 18. Officer Slater will be able to begin full-time patrol duties in July after completing Phase 2 and 160 hours of Field Training. The VBOT has approved the hiring of part-time Training Officer Eric Poggoli for ongoing training.
- Wendy Cook observes that the numbers reported in UCR December 2022 to March 2023 Chief of Police Reports to VBOT have been consistent despite the reduced patrol hours. Simple assaults and disorderly conduct are regularly reported. Wendy has transferred the monthly UCR data to a spreadsheet and will update the spreadsheet and distribute it to CAB members each month.

#### CAB Bylaws Discussion

- The Bylaws were assessed by John Sapovits for procedures for inviting guest speakers. It was recommended and approved by consensus that no changes to the Bylaws are necessary at this time.
- The Mayor and the VBOT will make the selection of a new member for the CAB. As part of the process, the Mayor will seek present CAB members consideration of candidates via email.

The Chairman affirmed the CAB Goals and Objectives for 2023 to review Village of Cobleskill Resolution # 5-21, The Village of Cobleskill Police Department Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan, and determine which recommendations require further action by CAB and the Police Department. The board wants to continue to grow programs that involve citizens and police.

NEXT MEETING: 6:00 pm Sept. 20, 2023

Subsequent meeting: Nov. 15, 2023

Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Pat Mesibov and seconded by Rebecca Stanton-Terk. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Gerdes  
Recording Clerk