

Yarmouth Police Services Advisory Committee  
 Minutes of Meeting  
 October 17, 2023, 4:30 p.m.  
 Town Hall Community Room

Name	Status	Term ends	Present
Jennifer Willard	Voting member	2023	X
Katrina Meade	Voting member	2023	X
[Vacancy]	Voting member	2024	
Mary Lynn Engel	Voting member	2024	X
Jamie Orenstein	Voting member	2025	X
Mary Lou Michael	Voting member	2025	X
Susan Hall Dreher	Voting member	2025	
Chief Dan Gallant	Non-voting member (PD)	2024	X
Wiley Schumacher	Non-voting member (YHS)	2024	X
David Craig (filling in for Zoe Wolf)	Town Counsel Liaison	2024	X

1. Approval of minutes:

The Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting held on September 19, 2023, as revised to more fully reflect the discussion of the vacancy on the Committee.

2. Vacancy:

There is no update from the Town Council or Nominations Committee on filling the current vacancy.

3. Gun safety forum:

Chief Gallant provided information about a gun safety forum to be held in Falmouth on October 17, 2023, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

4. Results of member survey about issues to prioritize:

Following the September 2023 meeting, each member identified specific topics mentioned in the Committee’s mission statement that the member thought should be prioritized, to allow the Committee to set priorities for further action and discussion. Co-chair Mary Lynn Engel provided a summary of the results. In particular, each member identified one of the following three topics related to bias: “implicit and explicit bias,” “working through biases and stereotypes,” and “hate or bias motivated crimes.”

Members discussed how best to gather information on bias-related issues, particularly in light of the fact that the topic encompasses a wide range of distinct concerns, including bias between offenders and victims and bias during police encounters. Chief Gallant mentioned two potential sources of relevant information: (a) the Community Resource Liaison for Yarmouth, Cumberland, and Falmouth, who may have information about community needs and concerns, and (b) surveys previously conducted by other town agencies, as a way of identifying useful methods for soliciting information from various communities in town. Chief Gallant also agreed to provide members with copies of relevant existing

Police Department policies. The members agreed to review the information provided by Chief Gallant and draft questions (to be sent to the co-chairs) that they think would be useful to include in a survey of town residents.

5. Review of draft policy on underage drinking:

Chief Gallant reported that the Police Department is currently drafting a policy on responding to incidents of underage drinking and requested the Committee's input. Members agreed to review a draft once it is ready.

6. Next meeting:

November 21, 2023, 4:30 p.m., Town Hall Community Room.