

The Police – Citizens Advisory Committee  
January 24, 2005  
Meeting Minutes  
7:15 p.m.

In attendance: City Marshal Thomas Howard, Superintendent Mary Murray, Ann Burnham, Officer William Steeves, Joyce Crosby

Committee approved minutes of the December 7, 2004 Meeting.

The committee had a very productive meeting with John Macone, Editor of the Newburyport Daily News. Mr. Macone had been invited to the meeting by the committee to discuss ways in which the police and the newspaper could work together to improve communication. The following was discussed:

- Bill S. spoke of how in the past Officer Jack Carl would write a biweekly column for the newspaper; however it was discontinued after Officer Carl's retirement. Mr. Macone supported bringing this column back on a biweekly basis. However, he did caution us of the difficulty in finding topics over a period of time.
- Mr. Macone was forth coming in admitting the newspaper was not timely in presenting an article to its readers because they were attempting to gather additional information or a picture to supplement the article. He added if we were able to provide a photo with some of the stories it would help them with the story.
- Jessica Benson is the reporter assigned to the crime stories, breaking news, and any other assignments she may be given.
- Mr. Macone stated it would be more helpful if press releases were sent directly to him at [ndn@ecn.com](mailto:ndn@ecn.com) . This would allow him to assign it to a reporter and he would better be able to conduct follow ups on the story.
- Mary M. asked what would be the best way to get the information to them. Mr. Macone advised either "bullet type" or a press release. He was also willing to work with the committee in developing releases most useful to the paper.
- Mr. Macone advised the committee that Victor Tine had been reassigned to the business section and was no longer in the Newburyport office. Reporters now report to either City Editor Will Courtney or News Editor Merrily Buchs.

Domestic Violence High Risk Team:

- Area police (Newburyport, Amesbury, and Salisbury), the Women's Crisis Center, probation, and the Holy Family Hospital have created a group to address victims of domestic violence who are at risk of serious harm or death. This group meets monthly and at anytime a referral is sent to them. This team is now accepting referrals.

The Police Department, in cooperation with Northern Essex Community College, has accepted an intern for the spring semester. He will be working with the department for 120 hours.

The Police Department has purchased an Alcohol Awareness Program, which includes a teaching module, informational pamphlets, and a training video for the SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) Chapter at Newburyport High School. The department is working with the Mr. Lee, the High School Principal, to present this program to the school.

Officer Training:

- Sexual Assault / Child Abuse Protocols – Officer Marshall
- Fraud Investigations – Inspector Brunault
- Crime Scene Digital Photography – Officers Vatcher, Vorderis and Senter

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Howard,  
City Marshal