

POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE, INC. (PAL)

The Police Athletic League, Inc. (PAL) Meeting was held on September 27, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. with Chief Marvin Mailey presiding. Members of the PAL Board in attendance were Kevin Baird, Esq., and Dr. Wilma Mishoe (arrived at 2:14 p.m.).

PAL PROGRAM UPDATES/NEW BUSINESS

Chief Marvin Mailey introduced Sgt. Gregory Hopkins, the new Special Enforcement Unit Supervisor.

MCpl. Keith Hester, manager of the PAL program stated that an all sports program will be held at William Henry on Mondays and Wednesdays. Central Middle School will have a basketball program that will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays through the Century 21 program. Simon Circle continues Monday thru Thursday from 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. through the Green Beret Project.

In response to Mr. Roddie Byers, a member of Mt. Zion Church, MCpl. Hester stated that the PAL program is separate from the City of Dover Parks and Recreation Program. He further mentioned, at this time, PAL programs are free of charge and that the city programs are fee based.

Chief Mailey stated to contact Dr. Mishoe as she has had interest from members of the Mt. Zion church that would like to volunteer as coaches.

MCpl. Hester, responding to Mr. Frederick Tolbert, a member of Mt. Zion Church, stated that the PAL programs were limited to certain schools at this time due to gym time (schools have their own sports programs) as well as fees to use the gym which inhibits our participation at some schools. The schools PAL currently work with do not charge for usage of their gym. MCpl. Hester further stated that the way the program is set up now, the participants have to maintain grades and behavior to be in the programs. If the program was opened to more age groups and at different schools, more police presence would be needed. Mr. Tolbert mentioned that other cities offer more PAL programs, MCpl Hester stated most of those cities have a dedicated building and million dollar budgets.

In response to Mr. Tolbert's questioning if the City of Dover contributed, Chief Mailey stated they do not and further research would be done to find out how the PAL program was set up with regards to City funding.

Responding to Dr. Mishoe, MCpl. Hester stated that parent participation is minimal and that he can recall no parents coming in to watch their children play sports and only about 2 parents that escorted their children to the program.

MCpl. Hester, responding to Dr. Mishoe, stated that most of the funding was through grants. Dr. Mishoe suggested a separate entity of the PAL committee that could solely be for fundraising. She further stated, after mentioning that she could not chair that subcommittee, that she would look for volunteers and report back. Chief Mailey stated that the volunteer meetings would follow immediately after the regular PAL meetings.

When asked what he would do with a large sum of funds, MCpl. Hester responded that programs for the children would be great, such as a weekly class at the Dover Crossfit, similar to what they have been doing for Parkway Academy students.

Dr. Mishoe stated that she would hope that the long range goals of the PAL program would include more than just athletics. MCpl. Hester stated that they had 22 computers donated and tried to start a

computer repair class and there was no interest. They have also tried academics, arts and chess with little interest in those as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Chief Mailey briefed on the minutes from the August 16, 2017, 2017 meeting, and stated that they were posted on the City's website.

When asked about programs at Towne Point, MCpl. Hester stated he was waiting on their schedule.

Mr. Kevin Baird stated that the donation he requested thru the Masonic Charters of Delaware for PAL had been approved for between \$4k & \$5k.

Chief Mailey requested that Lt. Christopher Hermance, Special Unit Enforcement Commander follow up on getting a vehicle donated as well as insurance costs and stipulations.

Chief Mailey further mentioned that he would report back at the meeting in September, the status of the Criminal Justice Council Grant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lt. Hermance stated there would be a bike rodeo on October 14, 2017 from 12:30 – 3:30 at the Elk's Lodge on Saulsbury Road. It is free of charge to all participants and is in conjunction with the Kent County MPO. There will be a raffle for five bikes and helmets as well as a pie eating contest.

Responding to Mr. Byers, Mr. Baird stated that he did receive the suggestions for by-law changes and he would bring a red-lined copy to the next meeting for review.

Dr. Mishoe stated that the PAL program should be listed on the United Way list of recipients, Lt. Hermance will follow up with United Way to get added to the list.

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.