Brattleboro Citizens Police Communications Committee
Minutes of Regular Meeting  Oct. 22, 2018
Brooks Memorial Library Meeting Room

Present:    Elissa Pine, Leesette Bengar, Beth Baldwin, Gary Stroud, Ken McCaffrey
Also Present:  Captain Carignan  BPD
Meeting began at 5:35pm;  Quorum present.
Review of Agenda:   no changes
Review and Approval of Minutes - minutes of Sept. 24, 2018 approved as written.

Compliments/Complaints received from BPD

- A complaint was received regarding an incident that occurred on Sept. 6, 2018 alleging the use of excessive force in taking complainant into custody during a domestic dispute investigation. BPD investigation concluded that given that the complainant was resisting arrest, force used was a reasonable tactic. Chief Fitzgerald’s response to the complainant indicates that the officer is exonerated and the claim of further force being used was found to be unfounded.

- Captain Carignan provided a copy of Chief Fitzgerald’s response regarding a complaint of an incident that occurred on Feb. 8, 2018 alleging improper actions by an off-duty officer involved in a three-car accident in the Williston, VT area. BPD investigation found several assumptions made by the complainant to be unfounded and that the officer, at fault for the accident, was held accountable and received no professional courtesy. That the officer was armed, and did not identify himself as being a police officer, is perfectly reasonable. BPD did indicate that the issue of implicit bias demonstrated a need for monitoring the officer's interactions with the public. The complainant was thanked for bringing this matter to the attention of BPD, providing an opportunity for improvement through communication, further training and other means.

Unfinished Business

- Two cases remain open. One (occurring 3/22/18) is still ongoing. Captain Carignan will further research a second (way back - 6/12/16) and report at our next meeting.
- A brief discussion regarding the implementation of BPD use of body cameras. Several issue not yet resolved; progress is ongoing.

New Business -none

No Public Participation

An agenda for the next meeting was discussed.

Moved, seconded and so voted to adjourn at 6:10 pm.

The next meeting will be on **Nov. 26, 2018**; 5:30 PM; Library Meeting Room.

Respectfully submitted
Ken McCaffrey
Recording Clerk