

WESTERN DISTRICT VIEW

Western District Police-Community Relations Council
8273 Telegraph Road, Odenton 21113

7 April 2020

Our Next Meeting – scheduled for Wednesday, 8 April, 7 PM, at WD Headquarters in Odenton, has been cancelled. In fact, all future WD PCRC meetings are cancelled until further notice – due to Gov. Hogan’s Executive Order – issued in response to the Coronavirus emergency that prohibits all meetings of large groups. PCRC will advise you when this order has been rescinded and we resume our normal activities.

WD Shred-A-Rama 2020 - scheduled to take place on Saturday, 9 May in Odenton, has likewise been cancelled.

PCRC Meeting Minutes for 11 March 2020 -

1. PCRC President Rusty Bristow called the meeting to order at approximately 7 PM. He then led members and guests in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. After that he requested a moment of silence in memory of a long time PCRC member, Derrick Farmer, who recently passed away.
2. Our annual Officer of Merit ceremonies then took place. Each year in March WD PCRC recognizes those WD personnel who have in some way distinguished themselves during the past year, through sustained, outstanding performance, or through some specific, significant achievement. The recipients of this award were recommended by their supervisors and then further endorsed by the WD PCRC membership. Each recipient received certificates, a cash award, plus, his name was engraved on a plate that is added to a plaque that will remain on permanent display in the WD meeting room. The following VIP visitors attended and in some way participated in the ceremony: AACO Deputy Police Chief Jerard Flemings, Major Katie Goodwin, WD Commander Capt. Daniel Rodriguez, County Councilwoman Sarah Lacey, Brian Kemmet, Legislative Assistant to Councilman Andrew Pruski and Reece Peak, Constituent Services Officer for County Executive Pittman. This year the following individuals were honored: Officer Christopher Anderson, Sgt. Damion Dzambo, Cpl. Brittany Eure, Officer Chad Falk, Officer Paulius Mauricas, Officer Eric Thomasson, Cpl. Kevin Williams, Booking Officer Andrea Mills and Reserve Officer Russell Heller. Again, WD PCRC extends its congratulations to the honorees and our sincere thanks to the visitors who helped us to support this effort.
3. Next we heard from our guest speakers, Judges Pamela Alban, Elizabeth Morris, Rob Thompson and Richard Trunnell, who currently serve in the circuit court for Anne

Arundel County. The Judges introduced themselves and spoke about their backgrounds and current duties.

4. A brief business meeting then took place. The February View and Minutes were approved as published. PCRC Treasurer Cathy Fleshman reported a current balance of \$7,160.72. This balance does not reflect two major expenditures made recently - a storage shed for patrol bikes – some \$953 and the Officer of Merit ceremony expenses – approximately \$1,325. VP Cindy Williams put out one last call for annual dues, plus a reminder that Shred-A-Rama was on the schedule for 9 May. A suggestion to offer the info program “Stop The Bleed” (how to save a life by responding properly to a bleeding victim) was made, but put on hold until we again resume normal activities.

5. Capt. Daniel Rodriguez then presented his Captain’s Report. He was happy to report that no murders took place in Western District in 2019 and that crimes in most categories were either down or holding steady. Thefts from autos (TFA) were, as usual, the single major exception. Unlocked cars continue to be a ‘crime of choice’ for some, of late, simply because the opportunity exists, it’s fast, easy, lucrative and safe. Locked cars are rarely entered – except when property inside is visible – so, again, you can do a lot to discourage this kind of crime by simply locking your car after you park it and by insuring that nothing of value is visible. The Russett community has had problems of late. Squatters have moved into vacant houses and other houses have been burglarized. A brief discussion of the impending COVID-19 virus took place. AACO police and firemen are prepared to deal with it. For a starter, traditional roll calls have been discontinued at WD. Eleven new officers are currently undergoing field training, a new lateral hire is possible and another class will finish its Academy training in June – which means more officers for WD in the new future. After his report, Capt. Rodriguez held a Q&A session.

6. Rusty adjourned the meeting at approximately 9 PM.

FYI: Capt. Daniel Rodriguez, AACO WD Commander, 410-222-6150, or p02817@aacounty.org

FYI: Recipients of this message are invited and encouraged to share it with others.

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