

CPAAA General Meeting

Grace Union Church

August 11, 2022

Refreshments 6:30 pm; Meeting called to order 7:00 by Dale Flanakin, President.

Present: 46 members, 1 visitor, 10 police officers, including Board Members:

Dale Flanakin, Carol Pritchett, Joan Edleson, Linda Gartner, Larry McDaniel, Joe Buffa, Marci Potter, and Julia Kozuszek

Dale Flanakin lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Welcome: Dale welcomed members, officers and a visitor, Sandra Leonard.
2. Citizens Police Academy: There will be a class in the fall with 40 spots available. If members know of people who are interested, suggest they reach out to the 3rd or 4th precincts for an application.
3. Officers of the quarter: Dale announced and presented our third quarter winners. Congratulations, plaques, and \$100 checks went to:
 - a. 3rd Precinct: Officer Jeremy Hake
 - b. 4th Precinct: Officer Samantha Lang
4. Christ Memorial Church Barbeque Report, Elf Faulstich
 - a. Thanks and praise to Dale, as president, who attended the full day of the event.
 - b. Bake sale netted \$347.00; Barbeque netted \$1600.00.
 - c. There were 24 volunteer workers and 20 who donated baked goods.
 - d. The men's club says CPAAA is their favorite team to work with!
 - e. Elf had thank you cards for all the volunteers, and Dale added his thanks to all who helped.
 - f. Unsold bake sale goodies were distributed to the 3rd and 4th precincts.
5. Treasurer's Report: Julie announced that we had an ending July balance of \$7,330.72. The proceeds from the Barbeque were \$1947.
6. Membership Report: The badges for our new members are on the welcome table at the door.
7. Volunteer Report: We have had 172 hours of service from 27 members over three events (St. Albans Golf Tournament, JB Blast and the Christ Memorial Barbeque). Dale had certificates of appreciation for all of those volunteers and presented them to those who were present.
8. There are signup sheets for volunteer opportunities on the welcome table – help with refreshments, and the September 30 Golf Tournament.
9. The Law Enforcement Run at the Special Olympics has been cancelled.
10. Reminder to check the CPAAA website for information.
11. Reminder to check the merchandise table at the back of the room.
12. Precinct Reports – Officers Eric Tripp and Zac Sigler:
 - a. Zac started: In both precincts, car thefts are ongoing, but the new wrinkle is that for Kia and Hyundai “push-button start” models, there is a new way to hotwire them and drive them without the keys present. These cars are stolen frequently and then used in other crimes. Thieves are both individuals and groups. The groups are not well organized but

are showing up more and more. In South Country our good access to highways makes it easy for thieves to get away effectively. The police cannot pursue these thieves when car theft is the only crime - only when another crime has been committed as well. Many burglaries are committed today by armed suspects. Don't try to intervene! Call the police.

- b. Eric added that a formal announcement about the Precinct 3 new building could be forthcoming very soon! He mentioned that catalytic converter theft continues to be an issue, and with mental health issues and the schools opening in the next couple of weeks, there is a lot going on. Resource officers are available in some schools, usually the high schools. These officers are there on contract paid for by the High schools. Middle and elementary schools do not have dedicated officers but may have occasional Resource Officer visits.
 - c. Audience comments included observations of careless driving and expired tags. The officers responded that much careless driving seems to be associated with cell phone use, and they confirmed that they write more Expired Tags tickets than anything other type.
13. Bomb and Arson Unit presentation by Sergeant Jon Martin and Detective Dave Sandbach:
- a. The St. Louis County Police Bomb & Arson Unit is part of a joint effort with the St. Louis City Police. It is a full time squad, the only one on the east side of Missouri, and it serves a wide geographical area.
 - b. The squad does fire investigations too – “Where and How did a fire start?” investigations. If crime is indicated, municipalities with law enforcement of their own do their own follow-up. These cases are difficult to solve by their nature – in a fire, evidence is destroyed.
 - c. Most training time is spent on the explosive side. This squad is one of the top five in the country in terms of number of incidents.
 - d. They do ordinance recovery. Just today they recovered two grenades! In the event a citizen finds grenades and the like at home, leave the stuff where it is and call the precinct. They can send someone trained to retrieve the ordinance.
 - e. His Accelerant Trained dog cost \$57,000. This is different training than the bomb sniffing dogs receive. Accelerant sniffing dogs can identify gasoline and other accelerants with incredible accuracy.
 - f. Following their introduction, the Bomb Squad officers led the group to the truck and displayed protective gear, a look at the robot, and a glimpse inside the truck for those who wanted to go inside.
14. Adjournment: The meeting dispersed about 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Marci Potter, Recording Secretary