

**Community Relations Board (CRB) Minutes
September 9, 2015, 6 p.m.
Municipal Building**

Attendance: Susanne Wagner, chair, Lisa Borrelli Dorn, Annette Bassett, Robert Taylor, Steve Silverman, commission liaison; Susan Morgans, staff liaison. Absent: Albert Snyder, Dianne Wainwright, Dana Hackley,

Call to order: Chair Susanne Wagner called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Consideration of Minutes: The July minutes were approved unanimously.

Citizen Comment: A commuter who had just hit three deer on Washington Road wanted to know where he could report the incident. He did not think he or his vehicle had been injured but Susan Morgans called John Remark at Watch Command and Officer Remarks dispatched an officer to take a report.

Chair's Report: Susanne Wagner reported on a request for a mediation from a woman who had a gripe with the officers of her condo homeowners association. It is not appropriate for the CRB to get involved in this sort of dispute. Susanne wrote the woman a letter of explanation.

Susanne suggested board members view the last Commission meeting online because it includes a good presentation by Jody Maddock of White Buffalo of Mt. Lebanon's deer management plans.

Commission Liaison Report Commissioner Silverman reported that the Commission has approved a controlled archery hunt in some public parks and designated private properties (donated by owners) during bow hunting season, which lasts through January. White Buffalo vetted and selected the hunters and a hunt manager. They will provide Mt. Lebanon with a report at the end of the hunt. The hunt will strictly follow Pennsylvania Game Commission regulations.

Staff Liaison Report: Susan Morgans said that the solicitor has determined the mediations are an appropriate function for the Community Relations Board and says neither members nor the municipality would incur liability for actions taken as a result of a mediation. The solicitor does not think member without specific training should conduct mediations and recommends the Commission look into this. Lisa Borelli Dorn will take the lead (working with Susanne Wagner and possibly Dianne Wainwright) on making a recommendation to be discussed at the CRB next meeting. Members with training could be recruited or training provided. Or the board could refer people to the Pittsburgh Mediation Center. When the board reaches a consensus, a formal mediation policy should be an agenda item at a Commission discussion session.

Bob Taylor said it is a valuable service to talk to people about their issues, even if formal mediation is not warranted or requested.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Strategic Plan: Bob Taylor led a discussion on the strategic plan, representing the committee, which also includes Annette Bassett and Dana Hackley. He suggested that having a new manager might present opportunities for the board to tweak the "Coffee with the Manager" idea that worked successfully for several years, perhaps gearing each meeting to a specific topic. Bob asked that each member come to the next meeting with some ideas they will help further the board's goals.

OTHER BUSINESS

Susanne will survey the board to see if another time might work better for 2016 meetings, as the turnout has not been as good as we would like lately.

Next meeting: The next meeting is Wednesday, October 14 at 6 p.m. in the municipal building.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:30.

