

Nancy Goss Sheahan, Chair
Leo Willey, Vice Chair



State of Vermont
State Police Advisory Commission
Department of Public Safety
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-2101

Shirley Jefferson
Patti Pallito
Mary Alice McKenzie
Glenn Boyde
Allison Crowley DeMag

MINUTES

October 8, 2015

The State Police Advisory Commission meeting was opened at approximately 1:40 PM hours by Nancy Goss Sheahan, Chair with the following in attendance.

Commission Members: Present: Nancy Goss Sheahan; Chair, Leo Willey; Vice Chair, Glenn Boyde, Shirley Jefferson, Allison Crowley DeMag, Mary Alice McKenzie,
Absent: Patti Pallito

Others Attending: Commissioner Keith Flynn, Colonel Matthew Birmingham, Lieutenant Jeremy Hill, Director of Internal Affairs

Chair entertains a motion to accept the August 6, 2015 minutes with the one correction of removing Colonel Thomas L'Esperance from attendance at the last meeting, so moved by Allison Crowley Demag and seconded by Glenn Boyde and so moved.

Trooper Lewis Hatch and Sergeant Michael O'Neil request to address SPAC regarding an internal investigation

Chair entertains a motion to go into executive session to discuss records of the office of internal investigations, including new and miscellaneous IA cases of the Department of Public Safety, so moved by Allison Crowley-Demag and seconded by Leo Willey and so moved. Trooper Hatch and Sergeant O'Neil are invited in to executive session to discuss an internal investigation.

Closed Session: 1:46PM
Open Session: 3:50 PM

Mary Alice McKenzie arrived while we in executive session at 1:58.

Trooper Lewis Hatch and Sergeant Michael O'Neil left executive session at 2:35.

Mary Alice McKenzie had to leave at 3:40.

Commissioner advises that we lost a Trooper about three weeks ago while trying out for the Tactical Service Team. The Commissioner and Colonel have decided to be very open about this to the public. We have contacted the Korey Stringer Institute at the University of Connecticut. This institute has the world's foremost experts in heat exertion. We are also in contact with two individuals from UVM, Dr. Elliott and Denise Alosa, who have consulted on several marathons. These individuals are all experts in the area of exertional heat stroke. We have asked them to all come together and review our processes to find out how this happened, why this happened and what we can do better. This will not be just a State Police inquiry, it will be department wide. This is a tremendously tragic incident that happened and we want to learn the most we can about it and learn how it can be prevented in the future. We will be taking a deep dive into our policies with the advice and help of these experts and take the appropriate steps.

The next State Police Advisory meeting was set for December 10, 2015 at 1:30 PM.

With no further business a motion was entertained by the chair for the meeting to be adjourned, so moved by Leo Willey, and seconded by Allison Crowley Demag. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Carr
Executive Assistant