

RHODE ISLAND CITIZENS COMMISSION
FOR THE SAFETY AND CARE OF THE ELDERLY
MINUTES, FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Chairman Rick Susi called the Meeting to order at 10:09am at the RI Division of Elderly Affairs; Conference Room 211, Louis Pasteur Building, 57 Howard Avenue, Cranston.

Attendance: Chairman Susi; Secretary Ciano; Mickaela Driscoll; Chief Sid Wardell; Vincent Quintero; Terry Haydt; Valerie Topp

Guest: Sgt. Ricardo Mourato, Bristol Police Dept.

Excused: Vice-Chair Jack Quigley; Trooper Krystal Carvalho; Marjorie Perry; Denise Owens

Absent: Tom Magill; Rita Murphy; Robert Rock

Old Business:

Review of the 2017 Information and Resource Conference

Secretary Ciano reported that 140 individuals registered for the Conference. The total attendees at the Conference were 117. Secretary Ciano also indicated that much positive feedback was received by the participants who attended.

New Business:

*Chairman Susi noted that this is the first meeting of the year of the Commission.

*Chairman Susi introduced Chief Sid Wardell from the RI Police Chiefs Association. Chief Wardell is the retired Chief of the Little Compton Police Dept. Chief Wardell noted that a representative of the Police Chiefs Association will be appointed to attend the Commission Meetings on a regular basis. Col. Mendonca of the Central Falls Police Dept. is the President of the RI Police Chiefs Association. Chief Wardell will collaborate with Col. Mendonca to appoint a permanent designee.

*Chairman Susi is collaborating with Tom Papa, who works at the State House on Boards and Commission, to explore filling the vacant slots on the Commission.

Secretary Ciano is stepping down from the Commission on March 1, 2018 due to retirement. Secretary Ciano will work with the DEA leadership to determine the successor DEA Commission designee. Chairman Susi will be reviewing the by-laws to determine the role and term lengths of the Commission Officers. It may be time to consider new Commission Officers.

*Sgt. Ricardo Mourato of the Bristol Police Department was the invited guest speaker. Sgt. Mourato provided information on the Lock Box Program. Listed below are highlights of the presentation.

- *The Lock Box Program was initially implemented in Bristol

- *The lock box is typically affixed to the entry door

- *The lock box is opened by a numerical or alphabetical code

- *The code to open the box would be kept at Police/Fire Headquarters

- *All the lock boxes in Bristol have been donated.

- *In November 2017, 30 lock boxes were installed in Bristol

- *Sgt. Mourato is introducing the Lock Box Program in East Providence and West Warwick

- *Sgt. Mourato expressed a willingness to work with additional cities/towns that may be interested in introducing the Lock Box Program in their communities

- *Chairman Susi and Chief Wardell will extend an invitation to Sgt. Mourato to speak at future Fire Chiefs and Police Chiefs Association Meetings

- *Sgt. Mourato also discussed the following two programs to assist elders in his community:

 - *Adopt a Home—local landscapers provide free snow removal to elders

 - *Refrigerator Cards, which contain contact information and medications on elders to assist first responders

*2018 Senior Advocate Information & Resource Conference Planning

- *The following two dates are recommended: Friday, October 26th or Friday November 9th.

- *Potential Conference Topic—*“Creating Safety for Seniors”*

- *Format—An Exhibit Room with specific vendors displaying safety devices/technology and also have speakers present on safety for seniors—i.e.—Sgt. Mourato to introduce the Lock Box Program

- *Location of the Conference: Vincent Quintero will check on the CVS Headquarters and Secretary Ciano will check on New England Tech to determine if both can provide an Exhibit Room as well as a Conference Room

The Meeting adjourned at 11:25am. The next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 6, 2018, 10:00am-12:00noon, at DEA, Conference Room 211, 57 Howard Avenue, Cranston, RI.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Ciano