

OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF WYNBERG PTI MURP WITH REGARDS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AT THE PTI HELD VIA SKYPE ON 14 OCTOBER 2020 AT 14:15

COUNCILLORS

Cllr Liz Brunette

Ward Councillor: Ward 62

OFFICIALS

Mr Ivan Anthony

Urban Management: MURP

Mr Richard White

Subcouncil 20: Manager: Chairperson of this Meeting

Insp Heinrich Ras

Safety & Security

Mrs Brigitte Francis

Subcouncil 20

EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Mr Roelou Slabbert

Wynberg Improvement District

Mr Gene Lohrentz

Geocentric for Wynberg Improvement District

ACRONYMS USED IN THE MINUTE

ACT	Action Co-ordinating Team
CBD	Central Business District
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CID	Central Improvement District
CLLR	Councillor
LE	Law Enforcement
LEO	Law Enforcement Officer
MURP	Mayoral Urban Renewal Programme
PSO	Public Security Officers
PTI	Public Transport Interchange
SAPS	South African Police Service
WID	Wynberg Improvement District

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Mr White, Subcouncil Manager, welcomed everyone.

NOTED

2. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Mr Richard White, Subcouncil Chairperson explained that the purpose of the meeting was to sort out all issues relating to the Law Enforcement Officers who had been assigned to work at Wynberg PTI.

NOTED

3. DISCUSSION

Mr White stated that there was 1 roaming LEO assigned to the area and 4 LEO dedicated to the PTI and CBD areas. The LEOs were introduced to the Ward Councillor, Cllr Brunette.

Mr Gene Lohrentz from WID explained further:

- There were 5 foot patrollers and 2 vehicles
- At night the officers patrolled by vehicle.
- Last year one officer left on 25 August 2019 and two replacements had to be appointed. Negotiations was via Chief Shaun Smith.
- He had been informed that an appointment was made, the recruit needed a uniform and had to undergo 4 weeks training.

Cllr Brunette questioned whether the 2 replacements had been received. Officer Salie was one of the 4 LEOs that had been assigned.

Mr White advised that Mr Shaun Graham Smith should have attended the meeting to respond to these questions.

Mr Lohrentz advised that Officer Salie is the dedicated LEO at Wynberg PTI, his induction has been completed, however, when he signs-in for duty he immediately leaves stating that he does not work for the WID.

He also brought the following to the attention of the Meeting:

- The main focus was for the officers (4 LEOs and 2 PSOs) to operate in the area where their presence was required, namely the PTI and the CBD areas.
- Every time the LEO was told to go to the PTI, their responses are as follows:
 - "This is an operation for the Informal Trade Unit and not for us, the Unit will be notified about this (but never arrives).
 - We are not armed and are too few and hence we will not go onto the PTI because this is not an operation and we need an operation".

- Hence due to the aforementioned responses, WID is not able to enforce the By-Laws, only with the assistance of the PSOs are they able to work to the best of their abilities within the ambit of their duties. This is the biggest problem facing the WID, if there was no co-operation from Law Enforcement then this collaboration will not work to make a difference in Wynberg.
- In other areas, the LEOs worked in tandem with the CIDs, there was a co-operative relationship between agencies, however, in Wynberg, when the LEOs are requested to carry out a request, it is met with negativity.

Cllr Brunette said that she originally asked for 10 LEOs and only 4 were assigned to the PTI and CBD. She was also concerned that LEOs are telling Mr Lohrentz what they did not do but not what they are permitted to do. She needed to know their duties.

Insp Heinrich Ras stated that he was unaware about the situation of Officer Salie and the LEOs and will speak to them about their responsibilities and rectify the problem. He suggested that a follow-up meeting with Mr Lohrentz be arranged.

Mr Roelou Slabbert enquired whether there was any reason why the LEOs could not enter the PTI and attend to Law Enforcement matters. The PSOs enter the PTI and LEOs should also be present to support each other. He also enquired what instructions has been issued to the officers. This collaboration has been discussed with Ald JP Smith and the MURP Management because there was WID Management, the PSO and the LEO that had to fit into this collaboration to give it a multi-disciplined impact. This was not happening at the moment.

In response Mr Ras advised that as long as the requests to the LEOs was in the scope of the By-laws, the function should be carried out.

Mr White suggested that perhaps LE and WID should meet on a weekly basis (Mondays) to debrief the past week's activities and plan for the coming week. This would also be the forum at which to confront any challenges. Both Insp Ras and Mr Lohrentz agreed to this suggestion. Mr Lohrentz indicated that he may not always be available but will be represented at the meeting.

Mr Slabbert requested that Officer Salie to report to the WID Office at the PTI daily, the PSOs also report for duty there for daily instructions. Mr Ras agreed that Officer Salie to report to the WID Office at the PTI.

Cllr Brunette stated that LEO must sign-in and sign-out at the LE Base in Wynberg and questioned whether it may cause problems should Officer Salie report to the WID office. Insp Ras said that the Occurrence Book will reflect that Officer Salie is on duty at Wynberg PTI. Mr Lohrentz agreed to draft a short register for record keeping.

Insp Ras was questioned whether Wynberg LE Office will be moving to the building at corner Wellington and Main Roads, Wynberg. He explained that it was a heritage building with extensive roof damage and that eventually LE will relocate but not in the immediate future.

Cllr Brunette said that should the LEO component be increased to 10, enforcement will be more effective. Wynberg required two shifts for this to work. Current shift is from 7:30 to 16:00, they needed a second shift.

Insp Ras said that Wynberg LE had 33 Officers for Subcouncil 20.

Mr Lohrentz also mentioned that at the other CIDs, if the LEO did not have transport, it has been arranged with Chief Shaun Smith and Ald JP Smith, that he/she may be a passenger in the CID's patrol vehicle to ensure mobility. The permission has been received in writing more than a year ago.

Cllr Brunette requested that Mr Lohrentz forwards the email granting permission that the LEO may be a passenger in the patrol vehicle, to Insp Ras.

Mr Anthony agreed as that the document was important as MURP do not want any liability claims. He also thanked everyone for working together for effectively implementing the processes and that he was in the process of identifying a Precinct Manager. He emphasised that there was no funding for a dedicated PM and in going forward, the needs of the area will be assessed regularly.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

- a) That Law Enforcement and Wynberg Improvement District to meet on Mondays to debrief the past week's activities and to plan for the coming week.
- b) That Officer Salie reports for duty at the WID office located at Wynberg PTI daily (a register to be signed and Insp Ras to annotate his presence in the Occurrence Book).
- c) That Inspector Ras and Mr Lohrentz meet to discuss the duties of the dedicated LEO and the other officers appointed to Wynberg PTI.
- d) That Mr Lohrentz forwards the email permitting that the LEO may be a passenger in the CID patrol vehicle, should the LEO not have transport.

4. CLOSURE

Mr White thanked everyone for attending

The meeting ended at 15:40.

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Cllr Ian Iversen/Cllr E Brunette

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Date