

EAST MOUNTAIN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes for January 19, 2022

Attendees: 26

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by President Mike Ptak. He then led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence for our departed neighbors.

Our guest speaker was Police Chief Fernando Spagnolo

- Very happy to have East Mt. so involved in the city
- Civil unrest after the George Floyd incident - both nationwide and here in Waterbury - protesting from outside of our city that caused much stress and damage to property
- Police have a great relationship with community relations
- On state level: changes in way police are able to do their job - working with legislators
- Increase in juvenile crime - auto theft, increase in weapons possession, increase in thefts; same kids committing the crimes
- Change being made to laws for kids - working with law to stop crime by introducing new programs
- Police academy in place - new officers will come on in May
- Traffic patrol is good - working on out of state cars; quads and dirt bikes still a problem they are working on
- Working with federal and state on the gang force - very active
- City has 1500+ cameras around the city to track real time crime - home cameras can be hooked into police department
- 13 city murders in city last year - ALL solved by our police department

Captain Michael DaSilva from the patrol division is our neighborhood representative.

Office Ray Zulali reported that all was pretty quiet in East Mt. - 1 stolen vehicle, 2 suspicious persons, 2 motor vehicle stops, 7 blight, and 8 motor vehicle complaints. Snow removal issues being addressed - especially by school.

Officer Bessette spoke of the community relationship class at Post on Friday, January 28, 2022 from 8am to 4pm. This class is dedicated to improving relationships in the community.

Our new state representative is Lezlye Zupkus. She spoke on her background and her involvement with East Mt.

State representative Mike DiGiovancarlo spoke on the juvenile crime laws that will be addressed when the session resumes. The new spine and head injury rehab center on Harpers Ferry Rd. will be a state of the art - good for the city.

Senator Hartley talked also about the juvenile issue and reminded us that she is available for whatever we need.

Secretary report on line.

Treasurer report given - \$100.00 gift card approved for Dan who does the lights on the Christmas tree and \$100.00 was approved for a donation for the Winter is the Pits program on February 5, 2022.

There is a free vacation clinic at church on Friday, January 21, 2022.

Mark Lombardo working on missing street signs , East Mt. park parking, and the RT. 69 traffic study.

No news on Waterbury Neighborhood Council or the Neighborhood Watch.

Winter is the Pits at Hamilton Park on Saturday, February 5, 2022 from 11am to 7pm. Skating is free. Volunteers needed.

Still have opening for Vice President.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM