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**Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB)**

**Minutes**

Thurs. April 19, 2018, 6:00pm

City Hall Conf. Rm. 337

200 West Fifth Street

Greenville, NC 27835-7207

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BOARD MEMBERS AND ALTERNATE members PRESENT:

Attendance is denoted by an “\*” and absentees are denoted by an “x”

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| **NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS** | | | | |
| **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |  | **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |
| Carolyn Glast - \* | 1 |  | Charlotte Smith - x | 1 |
| Betty Hines - \* | 2 |  | Joyce Williams - \* | 2 |
| Ann Maxwell, Chair - \* | 3 |  | Ann Hamze - \* | 3 |
| Blythe Tennent - \* | 4 |  | Judy Bernhardt-Vice Chair \* | 4 |
| Sharon Stang - \* | 5 |  | Brenda Diggs - \* | 5 |
| **NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD ALTERNATE MEMBERS** | | | | |
| **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |  | **NAME** | **DISTRICT** |
| Margaret Hrushesky - x | 1 |  | Jim Brown - x | 4 |
| David Douglas - \* | 2 |  | Vacant | 5 |
| Vacant | 3 |  |  |  |

City Staff Present: *Community Development Department*: Christi Williamson. *Greenville Police Department:* Lt. Michael Montanye & Lt. David Bowen

**1. CALL TO ORDER –** Ann Maxwell

Ann Maxwell amended the agenda to include introduction of Joe Busby who will speak about neighborhood leadership training after Lt. Bowen.

**2. ROLL CALL –** Christi Williamson

**3. Motion to Approve the Agenda**

Motion: Judy Bernhardt Second: Ann Hamze

Motion approved

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Limit 3 minutes each**

* Three (3) minutes allotted per speaker
* Fifteen (15) minutes allotted for the public comment period

No public Comments.

1. **SPEAKER -** Lt. David Bowen/Greenville Police Department *“Nextdoor App”*

Ann Maxwell said that we met with Sgt. Mills who spoke about the Nextdoor app and how the Greenville Police Department is using this app to get information out to the neighborhoods. Sgt. Mills spoke with Lt. Bowen who is one of the admins from the City for the App. We felt that it would be helpful to have him come and speak about how the city is using it and how it benefits the neighborhoods.

Lt. Bowen introduced himself and stated that he has been with the Police Department (PD) for a little over 20 years. He is currently assigned to the East Zone which is the largest area in the city with the most calls for service. He learned about Nextdoor at a conference. The Public Information Officer (PIO) and Lt. Bowen use this app often. He doesn’t know if it will completely replace the traditional Community Watch. He said that it is more of an enhancement or tool. He pulled up the app on the large screen to show how it works. He said that he did a poll of what the people wanted to see from the PD and the citizens said that they wanted all information: good, bad and informational. He can also answer questions from citizens or provide public service announcements to the neighborhoods. Lt. Bowen said that sometimes he replies privately instead of in an open forum. Lt. Bowen said that the PD can only see what the neighborhoods are talking about if it is forwarded to the PD page. The positive with that is it allows the neighborhoods to be more private with their exchanges. He can also be selective with neighborhoods as to where the info goes. If he wants to target just one neighborhood he can or he can target all users. The PIO is really good about knowing what to promote out to the citizens. Right now there are 4880 total members in the city of Greenville. He can pull them up by neighborhood.

The neighborhood boundaries are drawn by the admins for the neighborhood so sometimes they are not completely correct. Ann Hamze said that areas can be redefined but you need to go through the other admins to get it changed. Lt. Bowen said that he has been able to get some of the larger student apartment complexes to become a part of it. Lt. Bowen showed how to generate a post by selecting the audience. He can check specific neighborhood, specific service areas or entire service area. It will also show how many residences are a part of Nextdoor. Right now they have 96 neighborhoods listed but this is only 8% of all households in Greenville. Brook Valley is the biggest with 380 houses participating. Joyce Williams gets messages but doesn’t have the app. She thinks she may have tried to sign up through the website but not the app. Ann Maxwell said her neighborhood really wants to use this as a part of the neighborhood association. She wants to know how she can get the boundaries corrected and since Wyndam Circle is a separate neighborhood on Nextdoor. Ann Hamze said that you have to know who the leads are. If you have the app you can go to the neighborhood and send an email about changing the boundaries. Lt. Bowen said that the PD is trying to increase usage by promoting and advertising the Nextdoor. Ann Hamze said that Nextdoor does advertise and are advertising more and more hoping to get more people to participate. Sharon Stang said that at her last NA meeting Lt. Carlton Williams was promoting Nextdoor and she said that she sent emails out to their members and had a good response.

Members of the board asked about their specific neighborhoods. Some were named by their neighborhood and some were incorporated into larger areas. In order to change this Lt. Bowen said that they need to go through Nextdoor and/or find the founding member.

Lt. Bowen said that this is a great time to start because it is newer to the area. He said that since only 8% of the households in Greenville are participating it is a great time to get your neighborhood involved.

Ann Hamze said that once it is set up, the admin is just monitoring to make sure the information is not inflammatory. There is really no work to keep it up. People post issues etc. Lt. Bowen thinks that it is a wonderful platform. He asked that we as a board promote this to the neighborhoods. He is hoping to do a membership drive and maybe have an incentive for the most new members. Ann Maxwell also said that this app could be used to give information on these scam artists that may be walking through the neighborhood.

Ann asked if Lt. Bowen is interested in speaking at the June meeting which Sgt. Mills is conducting. Bowen said that he should be able to.

1. **INDRODUCTION OF GUEST –** Joe Busby/ Neighborhood Leadership Training

Christi Introduced Joe Busby. He is from Little Rock, Arkansas (LR). He has a lot of expertise in the neighborhood leadership area. He does a Neighborhood Leadership Training that can be molded in any way you want it.

Joe Busby thanked everyone for allowing him to be at the meeting. He developed these programs in conjunction with University of Arkansas. LR is two times the size of Greenville. His wife took a position at ECU and they are enjoying Greenville. Neighborhoods are his passion. He said that since Greenville is his new home, he would like to give back. His leadership program starts at a low level and then has more intricate information as well. He said that he has lecture and hand out material for all of these topics. He said in LR, it was a 6 week program. He can present the training in any way requested. He can do a 1 day or 2 day program. Joe gave out is phone number and email. He said to please call if you have any questions. Joe said that he is not a subject matter expert but has taught this for over 12 years. Three things every neighborhood wants: security, services and value (home & life). He also worked with City & University neighborhood areas. He has some programs that help bring those 2 together. LR has a landlord program. When the landlords work with the university then it makes for better neighbors. He has ideas about many different programs that worked in LR and maybe we can incorporate into our neighborhoods. This also helps get others (younger generation) more involved and help pass the torch. Joe said that he would love to serve Greenville. The issues here are the same as in any city with both traditional neighborhoods and student mixed neighborhoods. Joe asked if anyone has been to the Neighborhood USA conference. It is the week before Memorial Day and he thinks it would be beneficial and provide great new ideas. You can do a membership to that as well. It is $100 a year. He has many ideas about renter vs. owner occupied. Ann Maxwell said that she would like him to attend the election and input session next month. Joe said that he would love to be involved.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**Public Safety Committee Update –** Joyce Williams

Joyce stated that under the work plan our goal was to reduce neighborhood crime.Joyce said that one of the ways is to produce a brochure that incorporates crime prevention tips for neighborhoods. Joyce came up with a rough draft and pulled information from the police department brochures. Please look at the information and make sure that we have everything covered so that we can do a final professional one to be distributed to the neighborhood associations and placed into the welcome bags. There is space on the back to add either the NAB mission statement or logo. Also a line that you can write your neighborhood association name. We can also date the brochure.

Ann Maxwell said that at out last meeting Kevin Mulligan was asked to provide his PowerPoint. Ann said that she will email the PowerPoint to the board.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

The next meeting is the Liaison input session and election. We also want to do some sort of retreat after the May meeting and before the June board meeting. We would like to have both of these meetings facilitated by a neutral person. Ann has asked Chad Carwein from ECU to facilitate the meetings. Last year we did a lot on our own, in committees for the work plan. This year we want to do it all at one time at a retreat. Everyone agrees on Friday June 15th from 12-5 and Christi will try to get the meeting room at the Greenfield Terrace Park (Barnes, Ebron and Taft Building).

There will be only 5 members up for election and 3 alternates. We will have to make sure that we have many liaisons in attendance. District 3 has the fewest neighborhood associations.

In reference to the June meeting: The Police Department is going to provide food. Sgt. Mills is going to use it as an annual meeting of stakeholders. They will talk about the Nextdoor app. We will have to begin at 530PM to do our agenda items. The PCRC does not want to have a joint meeting because they have already set their meetings for the year. We would still invite PCRC and the Police Department will invite people from their list. Sgt. Mills really wants representatives from neighborhood associations.

We have not done a district meeting this year. District 4 should be the next one. There was a discussion about if we want to have a district meeting this year or not. This is not in our bylaws. It was a motion several years ago to understand specific problems with each district. We think that this meeting needs to be a little later in the year. This will be better in September at our regular meeting time. Maybe we can advertise on Nextdoor. Christi will check and see if Jaycee Park is available for the district meeting.

Ann requested a motion to cancel the July meeting. Carolyn Glast made a motion to not have a July meeting Brenda Diggs second the motion. All were in favor.

**9. Motion to Approve the February 15, 2018 and March 15, 2018 Minutes**

Motion: Carolyn Glast Second: Ann Hamze

Motion approved

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Stratford Neighborhood sent an email about the fireworks on Friday May 4th they will be doing fireworks after the commencement. Please let people around that area know. The commencement starts at 7pm.

**11. ADJOURN**

**Motion to Adjourn**

Motion: Brenda Diggs Second: Sharon Stang

Motion Passed

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Christi Williamson, Neighborhood Liaison