

**SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE
POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

November 9, 2016
Greenville, NC

Chairperson Diane Kulik called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., at the Willis Building, 300 East First Street, Greenville, NC 27834.

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a motion for approval of the November 9, 2016 agenda.

Motion: Mr. Greg Rubel
Second: Mr. Lennard Naipaul

The agenda was unanimously approved by the committee.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a motion for approval of the September 13, 2016 minutes.

Motion: Mr. Greg Rubel
Second: Mr. Lennard Naipaul

The minutes were unanimously approved by the committee.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS / ROLL CALL:

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked each member and staff to introduce themselves and let everyone know which district they represented.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Diane Kulik; Chairperson, At-Large	Greg Rubel; District 3
Gregory Barrett; District 1	Scott Snyder; District 4
Lennard Naipaul; District 2	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jermaine McNair; Mayoral	Tim Webster, Vice Chair; District 5

CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Holtzman, Greenville Chief of Police; Jason Sugg, Interim Chief of ECU Police; Donald K. Phillips, Assistant Attorney; Sgt. Dale Mills, Community Outreach; Kristen Klindworth, Public Information Officer.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

OTHERS:

Citizens, ECU Students, SGA members

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairperson Diane Kulik introduced herself and thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. She then called a short business meeting to order following the November 9th agenda and asked each police officer, city staff, and committee members to introduce themselves.

The Police Community Relations Committee held its meeting at Willis Building and invited members of the community to come out and hear about what are the student's top safety concerns in Greenville.

The meeting gave students an opportunity to meet and give feedback to both Greenville Police and ECU Police about different areas of concern. Mark Holtzman, Greenville Police Department Chief along with East Carolina University Police Department Interim Chief of Police Jason Sugg met with students. The two chiefs were also accompanied by Bill Koch, Associate Vice Chancellor for Environmental Health and Campus Safety at ECU and Dean of Students at East Carolina Dr. Lynn Roeder.

Chairperson Diane Kulik stated that the "Greenville Police and the ECU Police work together to try to keep the students safe." Together we want to educate the students on whether it is crossing streets or crosswalks, or in this case tonight, they wanted the students to share what things they see at the intersections because their feet are on the ground and they know where there are problems lies at the intersections and crosswalks."

Chief of Police Mark Holtzman, and ECU Interim Chief of Police Jason Sugg, Bill Koch, Associate Vice Chancellor for Environmental Health and Campus Safety and Dr. Lynn Roeder, Dean of Students in played tagged team on topics on an open forum. They discussed:

- **Students Living** on campus and off campus relationships
- **Relationships between Greenville Police and ECU Police Officers-** and surrounding and extended jurisdictions(project another level of services to complement the city and the police department and other departments in the city for what they were doing in the neighborhoods (serving students) working on Halloween, and ECU football games
- Discuss the **Halloween Planning** - what the police department learned, completing after action report, pulling in other police officers from other regions, and transportation routes (point A to point B)
- **Shared Information** – student code of conduct on and off-campus. When a student violates that code it is reported to the Dean of students office from the police dept. (whether it is a DWI received a civil citation, arrested motor vehicle offense) - this process holds the students accountable because it wants to become better citizens and make better decisions
- **Safety Corridors-** largely travel routes mostly by students - what could the University to for these particular routes to make them as safe as possible. It includes mechanisms such as additional lighting, installing emergency blue light phone up in certain places that are visible (10th Street and 5th Street Corridors and the most travel route – through ECU campus). Interim Chief Jason Sugg stated that this process is under evaluation and specific routes are being looked at right now.

- **New Lights** on Fifth St. has been switched out to LED lights. In west Greenville the city has switched out over 800 LED lights. The horseshoe shape at Reade Circle to First St. those lights will be switched out this winter.
- The GRID - the site has been selected and city has five new crime cameras going into the GRID area along with some white lights
- **Lift Safe App** – There is a website that the students go to and sign up to receive the app. It is a bracelet, but it is like having a blue light phone into your hands students can connect directly with the police. By way of text messaging, sending photos, or even a video of something suspicious a student might see. Mr. Koch said over 2,700 people have signed up for the app already the university has received sixty-two tips from by-standers, 799 safe walks (10:00 pm to 2:00 am), nine emergency calls – five by texts, three went directly to 911 and one text went directly to ECU police dept.
- **Bicycle Laws** - Section Law Two 2016-90. Provisions that were change in the General Assembly effective October 1. People always ask is: can I ride my bicycle on the sidewalk. It is against the city code to do that. So you have to ride your bicycle on the street. If you are writing your bicycle at night you have to have the rear reflector on your bicycle as well as the white light in the front of it.

The students in attendance voiced their concern over the information in ECU Alerts and how there is usually no follow ups. Students also told the chiefs about the danger of pedestrian safety in the areas surrounding campus.

Mr. Koch stated that everybody loves the “ECU Alerts” as a timely warning. He thinks what Administration hear back from students and what Administration are constantly asking them, is that students want timely information. Some want a little bit more information than others.”

While students love the alert system and have asked for more information in the messages, there are other individuals who disagree. Mr. Koch said that some students have told him they wish there were less alerts and shorter messages. The university wants to give students the information they need, but do not want people discontinuing the service because they receive too much information.

A major component of the ECU Alert system is staying within the regulations of the Jeanne Clery Act, which is a federal statute. With alerts being sent out to more than 40,000 people, Mr. Koch said the Clery Act requires ECU to send out timely messages when it receives information about a crime. The university is currently trying to find a way to give students follow up information to cases stemming from ECU Alerts. Interim Chief Jason Sugg said, “The Clery Act is a very interesting thing. It is very dynamic, it changes a lot and because it is such a high liability area for a university because it really deals with compliance on a federal level”.

Another issue students expressed a sense of worry over was pedestrian safety.

“I like the conversation that we had about pedestrian safety,” stated Mr. Bill Koch. “We know that is an issue. It is an issue not only around campus, but Greenville in general and we know it has a huge impact on our students.”

In the last 10 years, ECU has made an effort to make the main campus more pedestrian friendly. Several years ago the university converted multiple roads through campus to walkways. As a result both vehicle traffic and parking were pushed off campus. Mr.

Koch stated in the coming years the university will look to improve pedestrian pathways around campus.

Mr. Koch stated that the University has worked with the city, department of transportation and the developer to align that facility, student apartment complex, with the crosswalks being designed into that whole 10th Street, crossing at Charles Street, from the apartment complex over to the student center.

Along with the new student center being built by ECU, a new apartment complex will be built near Krispy Kreme on the opposite side of main campus. The University is working with the developer and city to make the area safe by investing in cameras and blue light emergency phones along 10th Street.

"We all have a role to play to stay safe. Drivers need to slow down," stated Mr. Koch. Drivers need to better understand the rules for yielding to pedestrians. Then pedestrians need to follow the rules as well.

This is the second year the city has held this event. In last year's meeting students warned about the danger near 33 East Apartments and Copper Beech Townhomes. As a result, the city and community rallied and over the summer the North Carolina Department of Transportation installed a traffic light equipped with pedestrian signals along 10th Street.

Chairperson Diane Kulik stated that it is really good for the two chiefs to see what is on students' minds and what could be done to help with their safety.

Public Expression and Questions

The citizens asked several questions, and made comments and concerns regarding pedestrian safety/ pathways on and around campus.

Chairperson Diane Kulik ask for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Lennard Naipaul

Second: Mr. Greg Rubel

The next meeting is on December 13, 2016. Meeting place will be announced at a later date.

ADJOURN – 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne
Administration Bureau Secretary
Greenville Police Department
Document (#1040779)