

NOTES

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Ann E. Wall, City Manager

DATE: November 30, 2022

SUBJECT: Materials for Your Information

Please find attached the following materials for your information:

1. A memo from Don Octigan, Director of Recreation and Parks, regarding holiday community outreach events
2. An agenda for the December 13, 2022 Police Community Relations Committee and minutes from the October 11th and November 8th meetings

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Attachments



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To: Ann E. Wall, City Manager
From: Don Octigan, Director of Recreation and Parks DO
Date: November 21, 2022
Re: Holiday Community Outreach Events

The City will kick off the holidays and the season of giving with the return of Greenville Gives. Greenville Gives will take place on Friday, December 3rd in Five Points Plaza with the Holiday Market kicking off the event at 4:30pm and all other festivities beginning at 5:30pm. This event is organization by the Recreation and Parks Department, Public Works, and Uptown Greenville.

Greenville Gives will spread holiday cheer throughout the City with holiday carols, the tree lighting, the reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" from Mayor Connelly, a visit from a special guest that traveled all the way from the North Pole, and more. Greenville Gives also provides the community a chance to give back to local nonprofits as they will be collecting donation items at the event. Paper towels, toilet paper, hygiene products, toys, art supplies, animal products, and other goods are some the items that the various nonprofits are collecting.

Home for the Holidayz will return for its second year on Saturday, December 10th from 11:00am-3:00pm at Eppes Recreation Center. This free community event is a partnership with HeARToscope for ages five to fifteen and will have a wide range of activities including letters to Santa, face painting, bracelet making, food, music, and gift giveaways. There will also be a photo booth to document the holiday cheer. Other community partners include donations from local businesses and fraternities.

The annual Christmas Giveback at South Greenville Recreation Center will take place on Saturday, December 17th from 10:00am-12:00pm. This event gathers approximately 100-150 families from the community for a fun and inviting holiday event. Staff will be giving away over 150-200 gifts and feeding over 200 people.

In addition to the holiday extravaganza, South Greenville Recreation Center is hosting an "old school basketball game," where players will compete to win their selected crowd gifts and candy. This year's event will honor previous South Greenville Recreation Center Supervisors, Robert Johnson and Ronnie Purvis. A toy drive is also being held during Winter Youth Basketball League practices.

Please let me know if there any questions.

CC: Michael Cowin, Deputy City Manager





POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 13, 2022
City Hall Conference Room 337
200 West Fifth Street
Greenville, NC 27834

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Approval of the Agenda – December 13, 2022
- Introduction of Committee members
- Approval of Minutes – November 8, 2022
- Greet and Meet New Members
- Orientation – Presenters
 - Mrs. Valerie Shiuwegar, City Clerk
 - Mr. Donald Philips, Assistant City Attorney
- Elections for new officers - Mr. Donald Philips, Assistant City Attorney
- Planning for 2023 meetings
- Community members Expression and Questions
- Next Meeting – 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 10, 2023 – TBD
- Adjourn

NOTE: To maintain order of the board and clarity of recording, please allow one person to speak at a time.

The Police Committee Relations Committee Mission Statement:

Serve as a liaison between the community and the police. To serve as an advocate for programs, ideas, and methods to improve relations between the community and the police. To disseminate information to the community and the City with regard to the state of relations between the community and the Greenville Police Department. To assist and promote the community education efforts concerning safety awareness and community and individual awareness.



City of Greenville Police Community Relations Committee

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 11, 2022
Greenville City Council Chambers
200 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC 27834

Committee Members Present:

Carol Ann Naipaul (Chair)	District 2
Sonny Bass (Vice Chair)	District 5
Betsy Ray	Mayoral
Diane Kulik	At-Large
Mark Parker	District 1

Committee Members Absent:

Gary Davis	District 3
Sterling Ruffin	District 4

City Staff Members Present:

Interim Police Chief Ted Sauls, Staff Liaison
Assistant City Attorney Donald K. Phillips, Staff Liaison
Community Projects Coordinator, Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison
Major David Bowen
Officer M. George
Sgt. C. Liverman
Sgt. B. Quick

The Police Community Relations Committee met on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Greenville City Council Chambers. Chairperson Carol Naipaul called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Devinder Culver called the roll call.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Diane Kulik made a motion to approve the agenda. Sonny Bass seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul asked the Committee members to introduce themselves.

Mrs. Naipaul then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for September 13, 2022. Diane Kulik made a motion to approve the minutes. Sonny Bass seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She introduced Interim Chief Sauls who began the discussion with a question to the audience. He asked what they thought was the number one issue brought to the Greenville Police Department by the public. Everyone was surprised to hear that it was speeding and the associated issues such as speeding, loud mufflers and vehicular issues.

Interim Chief Sauls mentioned that his main concerns were violent crime (inclusive of gun crime), property crimes and traffic safety and enforcement. A lively discussion followed, highlights of which are given below.

Violent Crimes –Gun crimes have seen a slight up-tick. Citizens can help reduce gun related crimes by reducing the opportunities for guns to get into the wrong hands, be they children or criminals by securing guns safely, using gun safes, lock boxes and gun safety locks. Citizens should lock their homes and vehicles to prevent theft of firearms.

Major Bowen mentioned that the Greenville Police Department (GPD) was a member of the Pitt County Firearm Safety Coalition an organization that promotes gun safety. He said that GPD had some gun locks for distribution.

Officer George spoke about “straw purchases,” ghost guns and sentencing related to gun trafficking.

Interim Chief Sauls informed the group that GPD was still utilizing ShotSpotter. It is a great tool because on average only 20% of incidents are ever reported by citizens. ShotSpotter fills the data gap because it can detect, locate and alert police to all gunshot incidents within range.

There was a short dialogue related to the use of a Taser versus a gun. Interim Chief Sauls explained how every situation is different based on many variables such as, distance, attitude of assailant and threat level.

Property Crimes – Citizens are encouraged to lock their homes and vehicles to prevent theft.

Traffic Safety/Enforcement – The discussion centered on speed, injuries, registration, vehicle issues, traffic spots and knowing your rights when stopped. Interim Chief Sauls mentioned that there were many ways to educate the public about their rights. One way to reach young drivers was to teach them their rights during driver’s education classes in the schools.

Red Light Cameras – There was a short dialogue about the program and whether it was still in effect. Interim Chief Sauls emphasized that it is still in effect at the five intersections. He stated that the registered owner of the vehicle is responsible for any violations and not the driver.

Recruitment – Interim Chief Sauls mentioned that GPD is actively hiring and asked everyone to share this information with potential candidates. He thanked the audience for their time.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul expressed her thanks to Interim Chief Sauls and the Committee. She reminded everyone of the next meeting scheduled for 6:00 pm, Tuesday November 8, 2022 and asked for a motion to adjourn. Diane Kulik made a motion to adjourn. Betsy Ray seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Devinder Culver
Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison



City of Greenville Police Community Relations Committee

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Greenville City Council Chambers
200 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC 27834

Committee Members Present:

Carol Ann Naipaul (Chair)	District 2
Sonny Bass (Vice Chair)	District 5
Diane Kulik	At-Large
Mark Parker	District 1
Sterling Ruffin	District 4

Committee Members Absent:

Vacant	District 3
Vacant	Mayoral

City Staff Members Present:

Community Projects Coordinator, Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison
Lt. Dale Mills
Sgt. William Stokes

Chairperson Carol Naipaul called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Staff Liaison Devinder Culver called the roll call.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Diane Kulik made a motion to approve the agenda. Sonny Bass seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Naipaul then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for October 11, 2022. Sonny Bass made a motion to approve the minutes. Diane Kulik seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She introduced Lt. Dale Mills from the Internal Affairs Unit.

Lt. Mills began his presentation on the Internal Affairs Office (IA) with a brief history of his career which began in 1994 in Grifton. He began his time with Greenville Police Department in 2001. Served in various roles in and began his role as the Internal Affairs Investigator January 1, 2022.

Lt. Mills mentioned that IA is responsible for more than just complaints for example IA investigates:

- all employee crashes
- uses of force
- vehicle pursuits

Lt. Mills explained that when GPD receives complaints, the complaint is acknowledged and a case number is generated. IA then has 60 days to investigate the complaint. The complainant is then sent a letter that the investigation is closed but the letter will not provide any details because according to North Carolina law personnel information cannot be disclosed. This can be frustrating for the complainant.

Lt. Mills shared some statistics for 2021. There were:

111,367 Officer Contacts of which - 38,242 were citizen initiated
- 73,125 were officer initiated of these 16,147 were traffic stops

Lt. Mills said that the traffic stops generated the most complaints. He explained the possible uses of force such as: the use of the baton, pepper spray, Taser, physical, K9 and firearms. He stated that with the use of body-worn cameras the job had become a little easier as there was less of the “he said, she said” because the camera footage could be reviewed. Lt. Mills explained that the complainant according to the law could view all the body-worn camera footage in which the complainant’s voice could be heard or is seen in the video. Once IA completes the investigation it is reviewed by the Majors, Deputy Chief and Chief. The Chief makes the final decision.

As afore-mentioned, traffic stops generate the most complaints. Lt. Mills explained that an officer must have a reason to stop you. So if you do not want to be stopped make sure you have your insurance paid, taxes paid, registration up to date and driver’s license is in order. If you are stopped do not try your case by the side of the road wait until you get to court. Do as the officer tells you, do not resist. If the officer asks for your driver’s license, give it to the officer. The driver’s license does not belong to you, it is an official document, if you have it give it to the officer. If you do not produce it the officer can ask you to get out of your vehicle. If you resist then the officer may apply force to extract you from the vehicle. So comply with the officer’s requests. Lt. Mills mentioned that there is a video on GPD’s website which explains “What to do if you are stopped by the Police” and he shared the brochure on what to do at a traffic stop. He also mentioned the brochure on “Know Your Rights.”

A lively discussion followed about how to educate the public, especially new drivers about the right way to interact with the police at a traffic stop.

Chairperson Carol Naipaul expressed her thanks to Lt. Mills for a most informative presentation. Mrs. Naipaul also thanked the community members, the Committee and Greenville Police Department personnel for coming out this evening. She reminded everyone of the next meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Tuesday December 13, 2022 in City Hall Conference Room 337. Elections, orientation and planning for the upcoming year will be on the agenda. She strongly encouraged everyone to attend. There being no other business Mrs. Naipaul asked for a motion to adjourn. Sonny Bass made a motion to adjourn. Diane Kulik seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Devinder Culver

Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison