



City of Greenville Police Community Relations Committee

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 11, 2024
Greenville Church of God
3105 S. Memorial Drive, Greenville, NC 27834

Committee Members Present:

Sonny Bass (Chair)	District 5
Diane Kulik (Vice Chair)	At-Large
Mark Parker	District 1
Rosemary Johnson	District 3
Stacy Ruffin	District 4

Committee Members Absent/Excused:

Rev. Philip Lyon	Mayoral
Eric Ellison	District 2

Council Liaison Absent: Council Member, Portia Willis

Others Present:

Chief of Police, Ted D. Sauls Jr.
Captain Tara Stanton – South Zone
Assistant City Attorney, Donald K. Phillips, Staff Liaison
Community Projects Coordinator, Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison

Meeting Highlights

The police Community Relations Committee (PCRC) meeting was officially called to order at 6:05 p.m. by the Committee Chair, Sonny Bass. Sonny welcomed everyone to the meeting and then asked Staff Liaison Devinder Culver to conduct the roll call. A quorum was established.

Chairperson Sonny Bass made a motion for approval of the agenda. Stacy Ruffin seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Sonny then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for April 9, 2024. Rosemary Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes. Stacy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as read.

Sonny thanked Rev. Lyons and his staff for hosting the meeting at the Greenville Church of God. He then introduced Captain Tara Stanton.

Capt. Stanton mentioned that a community watch program is a group of people living in the same area with the common purpose of making their community/neighborhood safer by working together and in partnership with the police department/law enforcement to reduce crime and improve their quality of life. The community watch group members have regular meetings to plan and assign tasks.

Capt. Stanton emphasized that one of the most things about community watch is that it is a great opportunity to bond with neighbors and get to know what is or is not normal. It also helps to build harmony and trust which leads to enhanced communication.

The five steps to organizing a community watch were discussed:

1. Recruit and organize as many neighbors as possible.
2. Contact the Greenville Police Department to schedule a meeting.
3. Discuss community concerns and develop an action plan.
4. Create a communication plan (Implement a phone tree, web presence, Nextdoor membership or other means based on your needs.
5. Hold regular meetings and train yourselves to recognize and report suspicious activities.

The City Compass site was mentioned as a way of reporting for example, potholes, non-functioning streetlights and litter on the street.

Peddlers permits, social media, Facebook and crime prevention through environmental control were discussed. Chief Sauls mentioned the use of cameras to protect property, interactive security systems ShotSpotter and A.I.

Community Expression and Questions

There were questions about:

- could a church member ask for help from an officer parked in the church parking lot with people who were walking through the parking lot
- trespass agreements
- The Greenville Police Department Vacation House Check program was mentioned. The Police Department will check on your house for you while you are away on vacation. Call 252-329-4315 to request this service.
- squatters/homeless people living on the street

Chairperson Sonny Bass thanked the Chief Sauls and Capt. Stanton and everyone for attending and invited them to the next PCRC meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. September 10, 2024, location is to be determined.

There was a short discussion about the annual report to City Council. Sonny said that he would deliver the report in person on Sept. 9, 2024.

There being no other business. Sonny asked for a motion to adjourn. Diane Kulik made a motion to adjourn, and Sonny Bass seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Devinder Culver

Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison