

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

June 12, 2013
Greenville, NC

Chairperson Shawan Sutton called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Greenville Police Department, Training room A & B, 500 South Greene Street, Greenville, NC.

Chairperson Shawan Sutton “did not ask for a motion” for approval of the June 12, 2013 agenda.

There was not a quorum for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairperson Shawan Sutton “did not ask for a motion” for approval of the May 8, 2013 minutes.

There was not a quorum for the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairperson Shawan Sutton asked each member to introduce themselves and let everyone know which district they represented.

MISSION OF COMMITTEE AND PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Chairperson Shawan Sutton stated that the purpose of the Committee was:

- To 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.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Shawan Sutton; Chairperson, District 1
Marcus Jones; Mayoral

Carol Naipaul; District 2

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Wayne Whipple; District 4
Belinda Perkinson; District 3

Brian Paiz; At-Large
Tom McCullough; Vice Chair, District 5

CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hassan Aden, Chief of Police; Assistant City Attorney Bill Little; Sgt. Joe Friday, Crime Prevention.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

OTHERS:

None

NEW BUSINESS – Open Forum

Police Updates – Sgt. Joe Friday

Sgt. Joe Friday informed the committee and citizens that he wanted to update them on things that were happening at the Police Department. They are as follows:

- The City Chamber of Commerce had a Law Enforcement and Public Safety Appreciation Dinner on June 11, 2013. Lieutenant Nicholas Lucas was named as the City Chamber of Commerce Police Officer of the Year. Lt. Lucas spear headed Operations Inconvenience that eliminated the old convenient stores off of Line and Watauga Avenue.
- Chief Aden thanked Chairperson Shawan Sutton for her presentation she presented to City Council.
- Chief Aden shared some police brochures with the PCRC members regarding CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design). It is a free service to the citizens of Greenville. Any citizen that wants the police to come out and do a security survey at their home, can just call the police dept. and a police officer will come out and look at their windows, locks, doors, and landscaping; then make recommendations for improvements.
- Chief Aden discussed the issue of: “What to do if a citizen is stopped by the police,” “If why is the police stopping me,” “Why do the police ask certain questions.” He wants the citizens to have a better understanding of what is going on or a mutual expectation during a traffic stop. So the police dept. created a brochure that explains each issue. The brochures language is written in English and Spanish.
- Chief Aden stated that a lot of citizens talk about the violent crime here in the City of Greenville. He stated that... that is not the driver of crime here in the city. He asked the committee members to look at the chart on a daily basis. The chart explained where the police are in “Part 1” crime in the city.
- Chief Aden stated he felt like a lot of the burglary crime was up because of the materials that rental properties are made up of, such as: the doors, locks and windows. He felt that is the landlord provided better materials to the property; it would make it less of an entry way for the thieves to enter into the property. This process will hopefully one day be looked into as a part of the “upgrades for the building code” for rental property.
- Chief Aden informed the committee that the police dept. approached the City Council and asked if the “Code Enforcement” position could be converted into a civilian position. Instead of having a police commander to hold the position. He felt this decision would be on more of a professional level and the person would be more innovated, have more understanding of the ordinance and codes and have a clear purpose and strategy of how they could mitigate code violations in

which the city is filled with.

- Chief Aden informed the committee of re-organizing the Public Information Officer position and making the Accreditation Manger position civilianized.
- Chief Aden discussed (CPTED) Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. Last week the first four (CPTED) officers came back from the second 40 hours training, so now they are advanced (CPTED) officers. One of the things the officers are doing to bring burglary down is doing a “near repeat.” Meaning the officers canvas the neighborhood by knocking on doors or hanging door tags informing the citizens they could be at a high risk. So they would need to secure their windows, locks and doors.
- Marcus Jones mentioned one of the members of Knights of Pythagoras who lives over in Meadowbrook on Mumford Road was concerned about his neighborhood with school being out and gang activities going on. Sgt. Friday informed Mr. Jones that he would make arrangements to have some patrol officers sent out to patrol the area.
- Chairperson Shawan Sutton mentioned a concern on the 900 block of Douglas Avenue. It is two-story house that the city has purchased without a back wall to the house. People are going into the house and doing “whatever.” She stated that Code Enforcement had been contacted and also a police officer had been out to the property, but the comment that was made “was that there is nothing for a citizen to break into.” Chairperson Shawan Sutton stated that the house was not reported as it was being broken into, but it had been reported that people had started using it to do whatever. Assistant Attorney Little stated that he would get with Mr. Flood to see if Zoning was dealing with the issue to have the property renovated or torn down since the property was located near the 10th street connector.
- Two of the committee members mentioned concerns in Concord Drive. He/she stated the parking lot area was noisy beginning at 12 midnight up until 2:00 a.m. The citizens are also speeding through the area as well. Sgt. Friday stated that he would make Lt. Hadnott and Sgt. Montanye of the Traffic & Safety Unit aware of the committee members concerns.

Public Expression and Questions

The PCRC committee members asked a few questions and made a few comments.

The next meeting is on September 11, 2013. Meeting place is to be announced.

ADJOURN – 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne
Administration Bureau Secretary
Greenville Police Department
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