

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

November 14, 2012  
Greenville, NC

Chairperson Shawan Sutton called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Lucille W. Gorham Intergenerational Center located on 1100 Ward Street, Greenville, NC.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Chairperson Shawan Sutton asked for a motion for approval of the November 14, 2012 agenda.

Motion: Ms. Belinda Perkinson  
Second: Mr. Wayne Whipple

The agenda was unanimously approved by the committee.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

Chairperson Shawan Sutton asked for a motion for approval of the October 10, 2012 minutes.

Motion: Ms. Carol Naipaul  
Second: Ms. Belinda Perkinson

The minutes were unanimously approved by the committee.

**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  
Belinda Perkinson; District 3

Carol Naipaul; District 2  
Wayne Whipple; District 4

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Tom McCullough; Vice Chair, District 5

**CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Assistant City Attorney Bill Little; Sylvia Horne, Administration Bureau Secretary; Sgt. Joe Friday, Crime Prevention; Ken Laws, Captain of Investigations Bureau; Nicholas Lucas, Lt. Platoon A; Randy Wright, Platoon B; Brandon High, Platoon B; Scott George, Platoon D; Devinder Culver, Community Project Coordinator.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Pro-Team Rose H. Glover, District 1

**OTHERS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairperson Shawan Sutton along with her staff passed out tickets to all the citizens and staff, so that everyone could participate in winning a basket filled with a meal for a Thanksgiving dinner. She also welcomed all the citizens and staff for attending the PCRC meeting.

**Announcements - Sgt. Joe Friday**

Sgt. Joe Friday introduced himself and thanked the citizens for coming out to the PCRC meeting. Sgt. Friday stated that as a part of the police community relations community committee; he wanted to share a couple of announcements with the citizens. They are as follows:

- The new police chief (Chief Hassan Aden) will begin working at the Greenville Police Dept. officially on November 26, 2012.
- The call for service in Area A for the month of November was 75 police calls; 27 of those calls roughly one third of the calls were drug related calls.
- Announced that the police dept. is in need for more volunteers working with the citizens on patrol. Sgt Friday informed the citizens that if they were interested to contact Lt. Allsbrook or Cpl. Viverette in Code Enforcement (329-4110).
- Announced the City of Greenville Citizen's Police Academy. Sgt. Friday encouraged the citizens to talk with their neighbors, retired friends, and relatives to participate in the academy in the spring of 2013. The academy is for one hour ; one night a week at the Greenville Police Dept. The citizen will learn about the activities that go on at the dept. and have the opportunity to participate in the presentations and tours. The goal is to foster a healthy relationship with the community by getting the citizens involved.
- The December PCRC annual planning meeting will be held at the Police Dept. This

is a time where the PCRC committee members will plan for the 2013 activities.

Sgt. Joe Friday stated that those were all the announcements that he had to share with the citizens at this time. He then opened the floor up to the citizens for any questions and concerns that they might wanted to discuss; or anything that the citizens might wanted the police to be aware of in their neighborhood.

### **Questions from the citizens**

- Are there enough funds in the police dept. this year for the Christmas event, since the police didn't host the event for Halloween? Sgt. Friday stated that he would get her name and number and get back with her regarding this question.
- How long is the Police Academy? Sgt. Friday stated said appx. 10 weeks.
- Is there a cost associated with the academy? Sgt. Friday stated that this was his 1<sup>st</sup> time dealing with the academy, so he would have to check on the cost; it may be absorbed by the dept., but he was not quite sure.
- A citizen asked for information on the academy so that she could pass out the information within her neighborhood.
- Asked for a contact number for Citizen on Patrol?

Sgt. Joe Friday introduced Captain Ken Laws from Investigations, Lt. Nick Lucas from Area A which consists of West Greenville and North of the river. He introduced Officer Randy Wright, Officer Brandon High, and Officer Michael Scott George. Sgt. Joe Friday stated that these officers work in the area and are very familiar with the activities and calls of service that goes on in the area and he wanted the citizens to get a chance to become familiar with the officers. Sgt. Joe Friday introduced Asst. Attorney Bill Little and Council member Rose Glover, Mayor Po-Team, District 1.

Sgt. Joe Friday then mention getting the citizens involved in community watch. He stated that he felt like the citizens didn't have to have a huge neighborhood to have an active community watch. He stated that if the citizens had a single block of a single street and the citizen watched out for each other; then that is considered a core to an active community watch. This process would reduce the calls of service tremendously in a neighborhood. Sgt. Joe Friday stated that if the citizens could think about this as a community watch concept in those term or participate or watch a couple of neighbors houses, we could make our city a better place to live.

He asked the citizens if they had any more questions or concerns.

A citizen reported a community watch sign being down on McKinley Avenue.

A citizen asked what process they would have to go through to get community watch stickers to place inside their windows.

Ms. Naipaul expressed her concerns regarding sitting up the neighborhood association in district 2. She stated that the citizens would become stronger in their community by

forming an association because that is when police officers and city officials would take their matters, concerns and the neighborhood more seriously. She encouraged the citizens to have good communications with their neighbors, because when crime happens it affects everyone. And if the citizens don't do anything about it; they become a part of the problem as well.

There was a citizen that worked at a senior citizen complex; who stated that a lot of the senior citizen who lived in the complex was afraid to report or call in a crime in their area because they are afraid of retaliation. Sgt. Joe Friday stated that he understood and that selling trust was a hard thing to do.

He informed the citizen that he would be happy to come to the complex and talk to the senior citizens to help build their trust. He stated that all information reported is kept anonymous.

Ms. Glover commented on forming a community watch and also on retaliation. She informed the citizens that they just cannot be afraid because "people don't take neighborhoods", citizen "gives their neighborhood" to them by being quite.

In closing, Chairperson Shawan Sutton asked all the citizens to get out their tickets to be included in drawing for the Thanksgiving basket. The winning number was: 601871.

A citizen said they would like to have a prayer to close the meeting. A prayer was said.

Chairperson Shawan Sutton asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Ms. Carol Naipaul  
Second: Ms. Belinda Perkinson

The next meeting is on December 12, 2012.

### **Public Expression and Questions**

The citizens asked several questions and made several comments.

**ADJOURN** – 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne  
Administration Bureau Secretary  
Greenville Police Department  
Document (#941200)