

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

October 10, 2012
Greenville, NC

Chairperson Richard Crisp called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the police department in training rooms A & B located on 500 S. Greene Street, Greenville, NC.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Richard Crisp asked for a motion for approval of the October 10, 2012 agenda.

Motion: Mr. Dennis Winstead
Second: Mr. Tom McCullough

The agenda was unanimously approved by the committee.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairperson Richard Crisp asked for a motion for approval of the September 12, 2012 minutes.

Motion: Ms. Pat Peralion
Second: Mr. Dennis Winstead

The minutes were unanimously approved by the committee.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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

MISSION OF COMMITTEE AND PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Chairperson Richard Crisp 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:

Richard Crisp; Chairperson, At Large
Wayne Whipple; District 4
Pat Peralion; District 3
Carol Naipaul; District 2

Tom McCullough; District 5
Shawan Sutton; District 1
Vice Chair Dennis Winstead, Mayoral

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joseph Bartlett, Interim Chief of Police; Assistant City Attorney Bill Little; Sylvia Horne, Administration Bureau Secretary; Sgt. Joe Friday, Crime Prevention.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

OTHERS:

Mr. Johann Bleicher

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Officers (Chairperson and Vice Chairperson)– Sgt. Joe Friday

Sgt. Joe Friday stated that as the staff liaison, it was his responsibility to conduct the elections for new officers. Sgt. Friday stated that he would like to entertain nominations for office of the Chairperson.

Ms. Pat Peralion stated that she would like to nominate Ms. Shawan Sutton. Mr. Dennis Winstead second the motion. Sgt. Friday asked if there were any other nominations. There were no more nominations from the committee members.

Sgt. Friday asked the committee for a show of hands for affirmation to elect Ms. Shawan Sutton as the Chairperson. Then Sgt. Friday asked the committee all in favor of the nomination to say aye or nay.

The nominations to elect Ms. Shawan Sutton as Chairperson were unanimously approved by the committee.

Sgt. Friday stated that he would like to entertain nominations for office of the Vice Chairperson.

Ms. Shawan Sutton stated that she would like to nominate Mr. Tom McCullough. Mr. Dennis Winstead second the motion. Sgt. Friday asked if there were any other nominations. There were no more nominations from the committee members.

Sgt. Friday asked the committee for a show of hands for affirmation to elect Mr. Tom McCullough as the Vice Chairperson. Then Sgt. Friday asked the committee all in favor of the nomination to say aye or nay.

The nominations to elect Mr. Tom McCullough as the Vice Chairperson were unanimously approved by the committee.

Chairperson Richard Crisp began to pass out materials to the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of materials that was given to him when he became Chairperson. He also passed out the annual report from the last 4 to 5 years.

The committee went into brainstorming ideas of how to be creative in starting neighborhood associations and community watch.

Chairperson Richard Crisp stated that when the committee started working on the focus on individual neighborhoods. The committee added responsibility to the members of the committee to find a neighborhood that needs a neighborhood watch or a neighborhood that needs to become more involved in crime prevention.

Chairperson Richard Crisp stated the best resource for the committee to use would be Sgt. Friday, because he knows where the problems are within the city. Chairperson Richard Crisp stated that the thing the committee will want to accomplish is to be proactive with the neighborhoods rather than re-active.

Chairperson Richard Crisp stated the next challenge will be if a neighborhood is not organized and if they don't have normal resources as to where to meet or doesn't have a communication system. It will be very hard for the neighborhood to have a meeting; so basically the committee will need to identify a neighborhood, help the neighborhood to get a location; then have a way to communicate, because there are a lot of neighborhoods that doesn't have internal communications.

Chairperson Richard Crisp stated that the committee members will be doing two things:
1 Organizing a neighborhood
2 Promoting a neighborhood watch

Chairperson Richard Crisp then asked the committee how was the committee was going to do these two things. He then asked the committee members and staff for their input. Listed below are some of the input from the committee members and staff.

Committee member: Asked with all the social media; does the city have a (neighborhood watchgreenville.com) email that the citizens could go to get information out to people or could give information to the committee.

Staff: Stated that a link could be added to the police web page; Sgt. Friday stated that until that procedure is done, he could sent emails to all the PCRC members, Neighborhood Advisory Board, with a link to the police current Facebook, blog, and City web page.

Chairperson Richard Crisp stated there was a neighborhood association list with 72 telephone numbers on the list , but the problem was; all the numbers were called and a third of the numbers were disconnected or person no longer worked at the establishment any longer. Another committee member stated that at least with the telephone numbers; if you call them. It will tell you if the number has been disconnected and no longer in service, verses an email being sent out and not knowing

if the person has changed it or not.

Chairperson Richard Crisp suggested going on the Henry Hinton show.

Chairperson Richard Crisp and Asst. Attorney Little suggested having joint meetings with the neighborhood advisory board.

Chairperson Richard Crisp informed the committee that if they are assigned to a district goes with the different months; the committee member will need to start the process 2 months in advance to find out who the contact person is and to see they have a place for the meeting.

Chairperson Richard Crisp asked Ms. Sutton where she stood with district #1. She stated for the November meeting it will be held at the Lucille W. Gorham Community Center on Ward St. How they are getting the citizens to come out to the meeting is through a Health, Wellness and Nutrition program. She informed the citizens in order to benefit from the program the citizens would have to come out to a certain amount of meetings, join in community engagements & events.

Ms. Sutton even suggested that whatever they may have going on in their area or an event that is going on in the City. The committee member may want to ask for a slot to do a presentation to teach the citizens about community watch and why it is so important.

Chairperson Richard Crisp suggested even sitting up and distributing information regarding community watch at local event fairs.

Mr. Winstead commented that a lot of citizen doesn't realize that by forming a neighborhood watch/crime prevention in their community could get a discount on their insurance. He stated that was another reason why it is so important to get the word out, simply for people to save money plus the feeling of being safe in their

Ms. Carol Naipaul commented on her district which is district #2. She stated her neighborhood needed a lot of work to get the people involved. She had great concerns regarding her neighborhood and definitely wanted to see a change. She was glad to hear from the other committee members of how they had gotten their neighborhood associations started. But, she felt like getting a neighborhood association in her district was going to take a longer process and she asked the other committee members for help and to help brainstorm for more ideas.

Mr. Winstead encouraged the committee not to give up and spoke highly on educating and the awareness of community watch for the students and citizens.

Chief Bartlett stated that he was thinking of how he could get this organization (PCRC) or group moving towards productive prevention efforts; like community watch. He felt like it would go beyond his tenure with the City of Greenville. He stated that he would be discussing the issue with Sgt. Friday very soon. Chief Bartlett stated that he really thinks this organization needs to be the group in the city and the voice that the police department needs when it comes to the community watch efforts.

In closing Chairperson Richard Crisp informed the PCRC committee of the 3 new committee members that will be joining them in the upcoming months. He also thanked each PCRC committee members and all the staff for their hard work and their support.

Ms. Pat Peralion responded by thanking Chairperson Richard Crisp for serving in his capacity; especially his devotion, his enthusiasm, and his high sense of being a very good citizen.

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

Motion: Mr. Tom McCullough
Second: Mr. Dennis Winstead

The next meeting is on November 14, 2012.

Public Expression and Questions

The citizens asked several questions and made several comments.

- When to call Code Enforcement for violations.
- Keeping in mind the flip side of the coin with code violations between the tenant and landlord.

ADJOURN – 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne
Administration Bureau Secretary
Greenville Police Department
Document (#936232)