

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

June 18, 2015
Greenville, NC

Ms. Brenda Diggs, Chairman of the Neighborhood Advisory Board called the joint Neighborhood Advisory Board/Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at The City Council Chambers, 200 West Fifth, Greenville, NC 27858.

Ms. Brenda Diggs, Chairman of the Neighborhood Advisory Board asked for the roll to be called for NAB. There was a quorum.

Ms. Brenda Diggs, Chairman of the Neighborhood Advisory Board asked for the approval of the June 18, 2015 agenda. The agenda was approved.

Ms. Brenda Diggs, Chairman of the Neighborhood Advisory Board asked for approval for the May 21, 2015 minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved by the committee as corrected with the exception of Mr. Bellus being marked absence from last the meeting.

Chairperson Diane Kulik called the meeting to order. She thanked Ms. Diggs for sharing the inspirational poem.

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a motion for approval of the June 18, 2015 agenda.

Motion: Mr. Tim Webster
Second: Mr. Jermaine McNair

The agenda was unanimously approved by the committee.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a motion for approval of the May 12, 2015 minutes.

Motion: Mr. Tim Webster
Second: Mr. Jermaine McNair

The minutes were unanimously approved by the committee.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked each member and staff to introduce themselves and let everyone know which district they represented.

MISSION OF COMMITTEE AND PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Chairperson Diane Kulik read the purpose of the meeting:

- 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:

Tim Webster, District 5	Lennard Naipaul; District 2
Jermaine McNair, Mayoral	Diane Kulik; Chairperson, At-Large

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Shawan Sutton; District 1	Richard Crisp; District 4
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CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Interim Chief of Police, Ted Sauls; Assistant City Attorney, Bill Little; Sgt. Dale Mills, Platoon C; Sylvia Horne, Administration Services Support Specialist; Cpl. Chris Viverette, Code Enforcement Coordinator; Devinder Culver, Focused Deterrence; Lt. Nicholas Lucas, West Zone Commander.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

OTHERS:

Citizens in the community
NAB Members (Neighborhood Advisory Board)

NEW BUSINESS –

Chairperson Diane Kulik introduced Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls and read his background of service with the Greenville Police Department.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls thanked everyone **for** attending the joint meeting. He stated he was very happy to stand before the citizens to speak on topics that they have an interest in. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated the Greenville Police Department has serious concerns about keeping our community safe, keeping our residents happy, and about the relationships between the Greenville Police Department and our community members. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that the PCRC and the NAB are the fillers and voice between the Greenville Police Department and the community.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that there are 184 sworn police officers counting himself and there are roughly 90,000 citizens that live here in Greenville. He stated there is no problem too small. The Greenville Police Department handles a myriad of things. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that he would show the citizens how they are broken down. So if the citizens didn't know who to call; he could give them a guide on where to get started.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls informed the citizens they could rely on the City's Web page. The page would let the citizen know who is in charge of the different

departments. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls explained his role as Interim Chief. He stated that the Chief hiring process is underway. The city manager is working with an International Association of Chief of Police Committee to narrow the applications down to about 5 or 6 applicants or however many the city manager chooses. Interviews would be conducted, a selection would be made. From that point Interim Chief and the command staff will bring that person in and introduced he/she at one of the PCRC meetings and get behind them to support them. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that he is thinking September or October the City of Greenville should have a new Chief of Police in place.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated the police department is broken down into three Bureaus:

The Field Operations Bureau- Cpt. Ken Laws

The Criminal investigation Bureau- Cpt. Robert Williams

The Administration Services Bureau- Cpt. Chris Ivey

The Field Operations Bureau - is all of your sworn officers that citizens see in marked and unmarked patrol cars wearing a uniform and responding to calls for service. The gang unit wears a non traditional uniform like a polo shirt, patrol pants and an outer vest that states gang unit. The downtown unit wears the blue shirts and rides the bicycles. They are called the center city unit. When the G-TAC building; the new inter modal transportation center comes on line the police will have Center City in the new building.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated the Center City is currently housed in the West Fifth Street Sub-Station and the West Zone Commander works from there as well. The West Zone makes up 1/3 of the city. The East Zone is the second third of the city. The office is located near Ollies (10th and Greenville Blvd.) The South Zone works from the police department.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that Lt. Tyndall is in charge of Special Operations and the Swat Team which has existed since 1990. Sgt. Anderson is in charge of Tactical Patrol. The TAC unit consists of one Sergeant, one Corporal, and six officers. These officers receive the proper training to enable them to conduct successful street investigations, covert operations, and gang enforcement operations.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that Sgt. Oxendine is in charge of Center City Unit. The Center City Unit is comprised of a sergeant and seven officers working closely with the residents and merchants in the heart of Greenville.

The Criminal investigation Bureau - Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that the Criminal Investigations Bureau is commanded by a captain and lieutenant and consists of five primary units. Those units are the Major Crimes Unit, the Property Crimes Unit, the Special Victims Unit, the Special Investigations Unit, and the Focused Deterrence Unit. Each unit is supervised by a sergeant.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls discussed briefly the crime in the month of May 2014 in comparison to the May 2015 crime. The numbers were down 28%. The Greenville Police Department had driven the crime down 28%. He stated that if you looked at the crime for the year (today 2015) compared to 2014. The crime is down 19%. To give the citizens a comparison the police department finished last year with about 6% down.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that the police department is doing very well right now. The police department is trending down crime, but he said guess what is going to happen if the crime is down to where it has to go butUP! Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that Police Department will have a peak at some point. He stated that crime runs the peaks and valleys. There is only so much that the police department can do to control crime. He stated that Police Department reports their numbers very accurately and if the citizens don't remember anything else. "Perception is Reality." He informed the citizens their perception of how crime is in their city can become their reality. He stated that the police to department has suffered from that over the past. And that Police Department really had to explain that and help educate the public, but that is not always the case. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated but let's look at what the data says.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls spoke briefly on body cameras. He stated that Police Department has 33 cameras in use now. Through a grant the police dept. has about 25 more cameras coming in and after July 1st, 2015 every police officer should have body cameras.

The Administrative Services Bureau-Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated the Administrative Services Bureau is responsible for providing the administrative support services necessary for the effective operation of the Police Department. This Bureau works behind the scenes supporting the men and women who are out working on the streets.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls talked about **How to Inteface with Police Officers**. This topic mainly is geared towards patrol officers. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that a lot of times parents or other adults are educating their children or other adults on what they legally or what they illegally cannot do. In other words for example, young people are told: "you don't have to let the police officer search your vehicle and you can refuse the officer." Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls asked if that was good advice to give to a young person. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls said why we don't just teach our young children to follow the law, not to hang out in the wrong places, not to carry drugs, etc. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls gave an example of how to interact with a police officer when stopped or pulled over.

1. Turn your music down
2. Roll your window down
3. If it's dark turn your interior light on so the officer can see
4. Keep your hands on the steering wheel
5. Produce your license and registration

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that once an officer has the driver's registration he then introduce himself and talks to the person to let them know what they were stopped for. He stated that it is naturally for a person to feel nervous when they are stopped. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated communication is a key!

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated that Comp Stat Analysis is something that Police Department is not doing right now, so he didn't talk about that topic. Basically what that means is that the police department responds using data.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls touched on the Halloween incident that happened last

year. He stated the event got a lot of attention. The police department got asked a lot of questions such as: why did you do this, why did you do that. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls said no one got hurt that night with serious injuries and the police officers were not seriously injured, so he considered that a huge success.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls made a plea with the NAB and PCRC members on talking to people they know; letting them know that the Greenville Police Department. is a good agency to work for. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated this agency needs more women, more minorities, etc. and he needed their help to help recruit for this agency.

Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls spoke on National Night Out. He stated it is Tuesday, August 4, 2015. Interim Chief of Police Ted Sauls stated if anyone is interested. They could go to the City's Webpage and complete the application.

Chairperson Diane Kulik passed out information on Neighborhood Watch. She read the definition of Neighborhood Watch. It is a group of concerned residents that keep an eye on their street and are observant of the rest of the neighborhood. Chairperson Diane Kulik stated they started their neighborhood watch in 2002. They have 300 houses and over 70 neighborhood watch people in her neighborhood. Neighborhood watch is very easy all you need is a chairman or co-chairman to be the contact for the police. Chairperson Diane Kulik stated the more people that are involved; the better the program can become.

Chairperson Diane Kulik gave a few examples of some things that has happened in her neighborhood so the citizens could see how neighborhood watch works.

One of her neighbors got up out of bed and saw a man running in between two houses. He called the police and the police came and arrested the person. Come to find out; it was domestic violence from another neighborhood far away.

Another time the same neighbor looked out of the window and he saw someone in the car next door to his house. The light was on in his neighbor driveway and car. The police were called and they came out to check things out, but ended up making an arrest.

The last example Chairperson Diane Kulik gave was that she was getting a lot of phone calls regarding a number of cars coming in at night on her street. The neighbors were aware of the cars coming in on Friday and Saturday night. So she started recording, documenting and logging the license plate numbers. Chairperson Diane Kulik made contact with Lt. Phipps to share what was going on. He was blown away by the information she shared with him of her recordings. All because Ms. Kulik and others had concerns of what went on their neighborhood.

Chairperson Diane Kulik gave Tom Malison their neighborhood watch e-mail specialist kudos for getting their e-mails out within 24 hours.

Chairperson Diane Kulik surprisingly asked Tim Webster to step outside the council chambers into the foyer. She then asked the citizens to describe what he was wearing. She asked everyone to refer to the handout of "How to Describe a Suspect" and get into a habit of looking at their surroundings.

Chairperson Diane Kulik gave other neighborhood watch suggestions to prevent crime for the home, vehicles, windows and doors, and additional tips.

Chairperson Diane Kulik stated that bottom line the citizens have to be a team and “when they see something say something.” Call the police and give them a description of what’s going on. The police will determine if they think it’s a problem; then this let them follow through.

Chairperson Diane Kulik thanked all the citizens and committee members for coming out to the joint meeting. She advised everyone to read over the information passed out at the meeting.

Interim Chief Ted Sauls took all concerns and questions.

Public Expression and Questions

There were several questions and concerns made by the citizens. (All recorded on tape)

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Tim Webster
Second: Mr. Richard Crisp

The next meeting is on (Tuesday) September 8, 2015. To be announced.

ADJOURN – 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne
Administration Bureau Secretary
Greenville Police Department
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