

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

January 10, 2017
Greenville, NC

Chairperson Diane Kulik called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., at the Barnes-Ebron-Taft Community Center, 120 Park Access Road, Greenville, NC 27835.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a motion for approval of the January 10, 2017 agenda.

Motion: Mr. Tim Webster
Second: Mr. Greg Rubel

The agenda was unanimously approved by the committee.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a motion for approval of the December 13, 2016 minutes.

Motion: Mr. Tim Webster
Second: Mr. Greg Rubel

The minutes were unanimously approved by the committee.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS / ROLL CALL:

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:

Ms. 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:

Diane Kulik; Chairperson, At-Large	Scott Snyder; District 4
Lennard Naipaul; District 2	Tim Webster, Vice Chair; District 5
Greg Rubel; District 3	Jermaine McNair; Mayoral

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

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CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Holtzman, Greenville Chief of Police; Donald K. Phillips, Assistant Attorney; Sylvia Horne, Administrative Staff Support Specialist; Kristen Klindworth, Public Information Officer; Lt. David Anderson, West Zone Commander; Sgt. Phill Rollinson, Shift D; Officer Michael Cunningham, Shift D; Devinder Culver, Community Project Coordinator.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Pro-tem Kandie Smith, District 1
(Attended PCRC meeting following her Town Hall meeting.)

OTHERS:

Citizens

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairperson Diane Kulik introduced herself and thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. She then called a short business meeting to order and asked each police officer, city staff, and committee members to introduce themselves.

The Police Community Relations Committee held its meeting at the Barnes-Ebron-Taft Community Center and invited members of the community to come out and “Chat with the Chief” about what the student’s top safety concerns are in Greenville.

Chairperson Diane Kulik announced that the PCRC will like to have a joint meeting with the Neighborhood Advisory Board on April 20, 2017.

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a show of hands and asked the PCRC members to vote on the joint meeting with the Neighborhood Advisory Board.

Vice Chair Timothy Webster made a motion that the PCRC April meeting be moved as a joint meeting with the Neighborhood Advisory Board to the third Thursday of April (April 20, 2017).

Mr. Greg Rubel seconded the motion.

The joint meeting with the Neighborhood Advisory Board and date change were unanimously approved by the committee. (Thursday, April 20, 2017)

Chairperson Diane Kulik asked for a show of hands and asked the PCRC members to vote on the time change of the joint meeting with the Neighborhood Advisory Board from 6:30 pm to 6:00 pm.

Vice Chair Timothy Webster made a motion that the PCRC meeting time be changed from 6:30 pm to 6:00 pm for a joint meeting with the Neighborhood Advisory Board.

Mr. Greg Rubel seconded the motion.

The time change for the joint meeting with the Neighborhood Advisory Board from 6:30 pm to 6:00 pm was unanimously approved by the committee.

Chairperson Diane Kulik then passed out the new attendance regulations forms. The old forms stated that if a PCRC member missed more than three meetings, the City Clerk's Office would notify the member and the member would have to state their intentions. The new forms states that a PCRC member can only miss two meetings within a calendar year.

Chairperson Diane Kulik passed out the City's Board and Commission Policy. Assistant Attorney Donald Phillips briefly explained the Policy and PCRC by-laws. He stated that on page 3 of the by-laws, the attendance policy would need to be revised to conform with the Board and Commission policy. The bylaws state that amendments to the bylaws will be introduced at one meeting and approved at the next meeting by the majority of the members.

Assistant Attorney Donald Phillips stated to the committee the more formal thing to do is to do a formal introduction by a motion then a second and then vote.

Vice Chair Timothy Webster made a motion that the PCRC introduce changes to the PCRC by-laws relating to attendance at the next meeting. Mr. Greg Rubel seconded the motion. The committee unanimously agreed to vote on the changes to the PCRC by-laws relating to attendance at the next meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER: Greenville Chief of Police, Mark Holtzman

Chief Mark Holtzman began his discussion by informing the citizens of a police operation entitled "Operation Janus." He stated that it was a three-day initiative focusing on offenders with outstanding warrants, gang and drug violations, and resulted in the arrest of 61 individuals and the service of more than 400 warrants.

Beginning in the early morning hours of Tuesday, January 3, 2017, approximately 40 law enforcement officers converged on the streets of Greenville in search of individuals wanted on outstanding warrants.

Officers and investigators from the Greenville Police Department, United States Marshals Service, North Carolina SBI, Pitt County Sheriff's Office, NC Department of Public Safety, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms combined their extensive resources in this enforcement operation.

The operation concluded on Thursday, January 5, and resulted in 61 arrests and the seizure of five guns, heroin valued at \$81,660, cocaine valued at \$12,584, marijuana valued at \$1,950 and U.S. currency totaling \$8,100.

"Operations such as this one are vital in maintaining the safety of our neighborhoods. Chief Holtzman stated that he would like to thank all of the local, state, and federal partners for helping make this operation a success. Their efforts have helped make a safer start to the year possible.

This operation represents the Violent Crime Reduction Unit's overarching enforcement strategy, which aims to join anti-violence, anti-gang and narcotic resources from federal, state, and local partners, and utilize each agency's expertise to remove these criminals and their weapons, drugs, and cash from our communities. The initiative is not over as all violators were not apprehended and additional arrests are likely.

Police Chief Mark Holtzman stated that better lighting, better road striping and some concrete barriers should make the streets safer for pedestrians in Greenville.

Chief Holtzman brought out maps to show those who attended a Tuesday night meeting of the Police Community Relations Committee where the trouble spots are for pedestrians and how he hopes to make those areas safer.

He stated that new LED lights have been put up in areas near Dickinson Avenue and West 14th Avenue, and he hopes there will be new light poles put up to light dark areas, too. Because the residential roads in that area do not have sidewalks, he also would like to have a bike lane along the side of the road so kids and adults walking or on bikes would know that's the safe place to be, rather than walking in the middle of the street.

Chief Holtzman stated that on East 10th Street near River Bluff Road and on Stantonsburg Road near the hospital, where people end up standing in the center lane waiting to get across the street, he'd like to paint a crosswalk at those places and put some concrete barriers in the center lane so that people would have a safe place to stand while they try to get across the street. Tenth Street is scheduled to have a median put in, but he'd like the barriers in place in the meantime.

Chief Holtzman touched on a number of topics during his presentation, including his plans to consult with the Police Community Relations Committee on proposed policies. He stated that the police dept. needed to engage the intellectual muscle of the PCRC board.

The first policy will be the use of force policy. Anyone can look at it online on the department's website, and the Chief stated that he would like the committee to review policies then sit down at a table and discuss it with him.

The police department is also going to be training the officers on two issues — how to be fair and impartial and how to deescalate a tense situation.

After an increase in police killings across the nation, Bishop Rosie S. O'neal of Koinonia Christian Center Church called and asked what she could do to help. Chief Holtzman told her he would like to train his officers in de-escalation techniques, but it is expensive.

The church donated some money to help fund the training on the condition that it be open to all law enforcement officers in the area. Chief Holtzman stated that the training would start soon.

Chief Holtzman also told the citizens the police department has produced a video that shows citizens what officers are doing when they conduct a traffic stop and what a driver should do when stopped. Kristen Hunter-Klindworth, the public information officer for the department, stated the video will be on the department's website later this week.

Ms. Hunter-Klindworth stated the school resource officers will show the video at local high schools, and she handed out business-card size pamphlets that told people their rights and responsibilities. The card, called the CARE card, is also being distributed through the Cops and Barbers program.

It tells people what to do if they're stopped for an investigation, what their rights are and how they should behave during a stop. It also gives information on how to file a complaint against an officer.

Chief Holtzman stated, "If everyone knows what the rules are, there's less violence. That's our goal of the Greenville Police Dept."

Public Expression and Questions

The citizens asked several questions, and made comments and concerns regarding pedestrian safety, city mapping, and traffic stops.

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

Motion: Mr. Jermaine McNair

Second: Mr. Tim Webster

The committee unanimously adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting is on February 15, 2017. Meeting place will be announced at a later date.

ADJOURN – 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne
Administration Bureau Secretary
Greenville Police Department
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