

SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

December 11th, 2018

Chairperson Greg Rubel called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., at Greenville City Hall, Greenville, NC.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Greg Rubel asked each committee member and city staff to introduce themselves.

Committee members present:

Greg Rubel, Chairperson, District 3
Carol Ann Bass, District 5
Scott Snyder, District 4
Gregory Barrett, District 1
Dr. Louis Warren, At-Large

City Staff Members present:

Donald K. Phillips, City attorney
Sgt. Dale Mills
Billie Jo Viverette

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairperson Greg Rubel asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Carol Ann Bass made a motion and was seconded by Gregory Barrett. The agenda was unanimously approved by the committee.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairperson Greg Rubel asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Scott Snyder made the motion and Carol Ann Bass seconded the motion.

MISSION AND PURPOSE OF MEETING

Chairperson Greg Rubel read the Police Community Relations Committee mission statement.

Greg stated that the purpose of this meeting is to make plans for the monthly meetings in 2019. He asked everyone if they would like to stay with the same topics or try some new topics. Several ideas were discussed; one suggestion was to start recording the meetings and air them on the City of Greenville cable channel. Greg stated that he would look into the possibility of that for some meetings.

There was discussion about results of a survey that went out to citizens of Greenville. The result was that the main concern with citizens was to have healthy law enforcement and fire rescue departments.

Greg suggested that there needs to be talk about lack of funding and retaining police officers at the Police Department. Dr. Warren asked Sgt. Mills if Chief Holtzman was concerned about retaining experienced officers and only have young officers. Sgt. Mills stated that Chief Holtzman works with his staff to address any concerns or challenges that the department may be facing. Sgt. Mills suggested that each person should take their concerns to their city council representative and the committee as a whole share their concerns with the Greenville City Council.

Scott Snyder suggested that the committee should start recognizing officers who have done great work. After discussion, a motion was made and approved by the committee to recognize officers and citizens who have done outstanding work.

The topics that were discussed for potential topics are listed below.

It was decided that January should be another planning meeting because time is running out for tonight because of the discussions tonight.

January 2019 - Planning meeting, at Greenville City Hall

Greg stated that he would take the month of February and have discussion on policy development for the committee and for the Police Department. He stated he would ask Chief Holtzman to participate and that he would check on having the meeting simulcast from City Hall.

February 2019 - Policy Development at Greenville City Hall

Gregory Barrett discussed having a meeting at Moyewood Community Center that would address citizens being arrested and going through a recovery process to become productive citizens in the community. He stated that he would take the month of April 2019 to have time to prepare for it.

April 2019 - Arrests and Recovery at Moyewood Community Center

Carol Ann stated that she wanted to do the topic Neighborhood policing and discussed the importance. She stated that she would like to have the meeting maybe in one of the uptown restaurants to potentially bring in more citizens to the meeting. The location will be determined later but it was decided that she would take the May 14th meeting.

May 2019 - Neighborhood Policing

Dr. Warren stated that he wanted to bring discussion of safety of the uptown area to one of the meetings. It was discussed that the meeting could possibly be held at St. Paul's Church, which is close to the uptown area. He stated that he would take the month of June.

June 2019 - Uptown Safety

There are no meetings during the months of July and August.

Scott Snyder stated that he wanted to do a meeting discussing some form of telecommunications. He stated he wasn't sure exactly how he wanted to do the meeting but it would be about some form of telecommunications. He stated that he could do that in the September meeting. The meeting could possibly be at the Police Department.

September 2019 - Telecommunications

There was discussion to have a meeting to discuss steps that need to be taken after an incident occurs; anything from an accident, stolen property or other criminal activity. It was discussed that citizens need to know what to do after filing reports. It was decided to call it de-escalation training for the month of March but that the location and who would be conducting the meeting would be left open.

Greg stated that he was not worried about the October and November meeting right now. Sgt. Mills stated that December is always a planning meeting. Greg discussed the option of making January another planning meeting. He stated that he feels like this meeting has been rushed and that they need more time to discuss issues at hand. Greg made a motion that the January 2019 meeting be another planning meeting to finalize the details of the meetings for 2019. Scott seconded the motion. There was discussion to open the January meeting to the community for an open forum discussion; however it was discussed and agreed upon to have that type of meeting in the spring. There was also discussion on having a joint meeting with the Human Relations Committee.

Greg stated that the last item that needed to be taken care of was the election of officers. After discussion of correct procedures, the following members were elected officers:

Greg Rubel	chairperson
Carol Ann Bass	vice chairperson

The next meeting will be held January 8th at 6:30 in room 337 at Greenville City Hall. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.