

City of Greenville Police Community Relations Committee

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, 2025 City Hall Conference Room 337 200 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC 27834

Committee Members Present:

Diane Kulik (Vice Chair) At-Large Stacy Ruffin District 4

Eric Ellison District 2 – Arrived later

Asiya Khaatoon District 1
Gregory Rubel District 3

Committee Members Absent/Excused:

Sonny Bass (Chair) District 5 Rev. Philip Lyon Mayoral

Council Liaison Absent: Council Member, Portia Willis

Others Present:

Lt. William Stokes, Strategic Services Devinder Culver, Community Projects Coordinator, Staff Liaison

Meeting Highlights

The meeting was officially called to order at 6:05 p.m. by the Vice Chair, Diane Kulik. Diane welcomed everyone to the meeting and then asked Staff Liaison Devinder Culver to conduct the roll call. Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was established.

Ms Kulik asked everyone to introduce themselves as Mr. Greg Rubel was joining the Committee and there were four members of the Citizens Police Academy present.

Vice Chair, Diane Kulik asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Stacy Ruffin made the motion, and Asiya Khaatoon seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Diane, asked for a motion to approve the minutes for March 11, 2025 meeting. Stacy Ruffin made the motion to approve the minutes, and Asiya Khaatoon seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as read.

Diane emphasized the need for Committee members to attend the meetings as it was not possible to conduct business without a quorum. Greg Rubel said that an increase in Committee membership would help with fulfilling the quorum requirement. He suggested that the Committee broach the subject with Assistant City Attorney, Donald Philips.

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A quick review of the preliminary results of the sixty-six (66) community survey instruments received led to a discussion about potential meeting topics and locations. Citizens had five weeks to respond to the survey, which was placed on the City of Greenville website and Facebook page and was shared widely. The discussion centered around possibly reducing the number of programmed meetings and focusing more on the topic and increasing attendance.

Advertising and communication were mentioned as key to increasing attendance as well as the relevance/urgency of the topic. People attend meetings when something newsworthy has happened or perhaps the topic has universal appeal. Timing is crucial, as is the need to be flexible and having the ability to adjust to meet any urgent issues which may arise.

There was a discussion on how to reach citizens as the traditional methods like the newspaper and television are no longer primary sources of information. People now use social media, Facebook, Nextdoor, Instagram and Twitter etc. It was determined that it was the responsibility of all of the Committee members to share meeting information.

The location of meetings was also reviewed. The benefits of having meetings rotating through the electoral districts versus one location was debated. No consensus was reached.

Ms Stacy Ruffin suggested that the topics are chosen carefully and that there is more emphasis on advertising and encouraging groups to attend. Some of the topics of interest to survey respondents were gun violence, know your rights, more communication with the community, human trafficking and mental health. In an effort to gather more information about issues which may be of interest to citizens the Committee is considering contacting their respective council members to ascertain issues that are important to their constituents.

After a short discussion on next steps, the following was agreed upon.

1. May Meeting

Time and Date: 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Location: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

307 Martinsborough Road, Greenville, NC 27858

Topic: Police K-9 Program and Demonstration

2. June Meeting

Time and Date: 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 10, 2025 Location: City Hall Conference Room 337

200 West Fifth Street, Greenville, NC 27834

Topic: Business Meeting

3. July and August 2025 – No meetings

The Committee decided that the June business meeting would be a time to plan for the remainder of the year, and to decide on the content of the annual presentation to City Council scheduled for September 8, 2025.

Vice Chair Diane thanked everyone for attending and invited them to the next PCRC meeting scheduled for 6:00 p.m. May 13, 2025. Diane asked for a motion to adjourn. Stacy Ruffin made the motion to adjourn, and Asiya Khaatoon seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Devinder Culver

Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison

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