

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

January 9, 2013
Greenville, NC

Chairperson Shawan Sutton called the Police Community Relations Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Police/Fire & Rescue Building Training Rooms A & B located on 500 South Greene Street, Greenville, NC.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Chairperson Shawan Sutton did not ask for a motion for approval of the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairperson Shawan Sutton did not ask for a motion for approval of the December 12, 2012 minutes.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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

MISSION OF COMMITTEE AND PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Chairperson Shawan Sutton 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:

Shawan Sutton; Chairperson, District 1
Belinda Perkinson; District 3

Wayne Whipple; District 4
Tom McCullough; Vice Chair, District 5

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Carol Naipaul; District 2

CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hassan Aden, Chief of Police; Assistant City Attorney Bill Little; Sylvia Horne, Administration Bureau Secretary; Sgt. Joe Friday, Crime Prevention; Lt. Edward Carson, PAL, Crime Prevention; Captain Cecil Hardy, Retired, Reserve Officer; Devinder Culver, Community Project Coordinator.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

OTHERS:

Mr. Douglas Tyson	Mr. Michael Ray
Ms. Pat Peralion	Ms. Carol Bass
Mr. Johann Bleichel	Mr. Lennard Naipaul

NEW BUSINESS

Meet the Chief - State of the Police Department

Hassan Aden, Chief of Police introduced himself and thanked the citizens for coming out to the PCRC meeting. He stated that he didn't have a lot of information prepared and that he was sorry for not getting a chance to attend the last PCRC meeting because of multiple fires occurring on that day. Chief Aden discussed the following changes made at the Greenville Police Department.

- There were structural changes made for critical pieces that Chief Aden needed to move forward to actually do properly assessments in the organization. Chief Aden stated that he needed to have internal affairs, accreditation, and Sgt. Joe Friday reporting directly to him. Chief Aden stated that all of these areas were critical to daily operation of the police department.
- Chief Aden stated that he had assessed the media contact and it was fantastic. He stated that on the morning of January 9, 2013 in the police training room all the media outlet was there in attendance and all the printed information and materials went out on the TV, internet, etc within a matter of hours. Chief Aden stated there was a good market here in the City of Greenville; there was no push or pull of interest. The police dept. understands clearly how to manage the media on the scenes and how to give the media on what they need.
- Chief Aden stated that there were some changes in internal affairs to make it a more transparent system. All anonymous complaints will now be accepted, and no signature will be required from the citizens.
- Chief Aden stated that other changes would be the deployment of the police officers throughout the city. He stated that he was a big component of the Comp Stat. Comp Stat started in the 90's. The purpose of it is to assigned geographic accountability such as: Area A, Commander A; Area B, Commander B; Area C, Commander C and so on. So if there is a problem or issue in Area A then the citizens could report a problem or concern to the Area Commander.
- A Comp Stat meeting occurs once a month on the third floor in the Municipal Building. Chief Aden suggested that one of the PCRC meetings should be held there so that all the PCRC members can see the room. In the Comp Stat meetings crime is discussed for the last two weeks. The command staff talks about the crime patterns and hot spots. They specific talk about the each Area

of the city and each Lieutenant is asked “specifically” what are you doing about the issues or crime in your area.

- Chief Aden gave the PCRC members his philosophy on crime and the way he will be policing the city. He stated it will be through “hotspots” where the information will be “data driven.” He stated the data will take the police to the crime. Chief Aden stated that through his years of experience and working with a lot of crime analyst and criminologist; he had the opportunity to work with a team from out of the Center for Evidence Base Crime Policy from George Mason University. The team developed a model where they could overlay a map (it was called fish net) where you could cover over a 750 square foot grid which is usually about a block size. Then the team would take part one crimes, homicides, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, robbery, arson and auto theft. Out of the seven part ones the team would rate each category by the severity of the crime. The team would then map three years of part one crime. Then they would come back and map 6 months of the same part one crime. Which would make the team having an historical with the three years and a 6 months with the most recent crime data which gives you the recent data work of where the crime is happening now? The team would then overlay the two comparisons together and where the 750 square foot blocks where the 3 years and the 6 months match. Chief Aden stated that there is where the police officer will be located and the method actually begins to decrease crime. This is not just an occupying force, because soon the officers become a part of the environment and it will be their job to increase the likelihood of apprehend for anyone who would be thinking about committing a crime. Chief Aden stated that it is an amazing method to see and it is not a “FAD.” It has been taught all over the United States and his goal is to have the method used here in Greenville, NC.

At this time Chief Aden asked the citizens and PCRC if they had any questions.

Questions from the citizens

- How did the meeting go at Cornerstone Baptist Church regarding the shootings occurring in Greenville? (Very well; received a lot of compliments)
- How many city council members attended the meeting?
- One citizen asked Chief Aden if he was getting what he needed; such as support.
- How is the police and citizens intelligence relationship?
- One citizen asked about the Hotspots and how did the police dept. receive the data to declare where the Hotspots are located.
- A citizen mentioned the brainstorming partnership implementation between the neighborhoods and the police dept. What was the follow-up?
- Two citizens from the Westhaven Neighborhood expressed some concerns regarding the shooting and cut through in their neighborhood. Chief Aden didn't address the question regarding the shooting because he stated that the shooting was on trial and plus there was a press conference scheduled regarding the shooting as well.
- One citizen made a comment on the traffic pattern on the intersection of Evans and Greenville Blvd. He stated that the traffic pattern is one way Mon – Fri. and on Sat. and Sun. the intersection has a different pattern.

Chief Aden thanked the citizens for coming out to the PCRC meeting.

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

Motion: Mr. Tom McCullough
Second: Ms. Belinda Perkinson

The next meeting is on February 13, 2013.

Public Expression and Questions

The citizens asked several questions and made several comments.

ADJOURN – 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne
Administration Bureau Secretary
Greenville Police Department
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