SUMMARY MINUTES FOR THE POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

January 19, 2012 Greenville, NC

Chairperson Richard Crisp called the Police Community Relations Committee/Neighborhood Advisory Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall Gallery located at 200 West Fifth Street.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Crisp; Chairperson, At Large Vice Chair Dennis Winstead; Mayoral Wayne Whipple; District 4 Pat Pertalion; District 3 Tom McCullough; District 5 Shawan Sutton; District 1

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chief William J. Anderson; Deputy Chief Joseph Bartlett; Assistant City Attorney Bill Little; Sylvia Horne, Administration Bureau Secretary; APO Les Jackson, Crime Prevention; APO Richard Williams, DARE & Crime Prevention; Sgt. Carlton Williams, Crime Prevention; Lt. Cheryl Curtis, Area Commander B; Lt. Susan Bass, Area Commander C; Lt. Richard Allsbrook, Area Commander A; Lt. A.P. White, Area Commander D; Officer Adrienne Ellington, Crime Prevention.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

OTHER:

Several citizens and committee members

NEW BUSINESS

Neighborhood Watch Workshop (hosted with the Police Community Relations Committee [PCRC])

Opening remarks

Chief William Anderson, Greenville Police Department (GPD)

Chief Anderson stated that in his opinion that Neighborhood Watch is the back bone of crime prevention. He stated that there was no way the police dept. could see some the positive results that the police and citizen see in the community without the citizens' participation. Chief Anderson stated that one of the things that he hope that the citizens take from the meeting is how to organize a neighborhood watch, and if the citizen had a neighborhood watch hopefully they could learn how to improve the operation of their neighborhood watch. Chief Anderson encouraged the citizens to talk about their specific issues that the citizens might be having in their neighborhood and community. He also stated that he really needs the citizens' participation. He asked the citizens to reach out to their neighbors, friends, and other relatives to get them all involved. He informed the

citizen that the Greenville police dept. is a resource for the citizen such as providing: speakers, solving problems, identifying crime trends, and knowing what is going on in their community.

Before Chairperson Crisp came up to speak, a citizen stated to Chief Anderson that before he came to the City of Greenville neighborhood watch was not considered an effective tool, but she stated that now community watch is very effective tool and she thanked Chief Anderson for making a difference while he was here.

Welcome

Ann Maxwell, Chairperson, Neighborhood Advisory Board

Ms. Maxwell thanked everyone for coming out to the joint meeting. She stated that while she was in a training session with Dr. McCall. Mr. McCall talked about crime going up when the economic condition worsen. Ms. Maxwell stated that at a time when the economic conditions are certainly worsened, the city has seen some improvement; it makes it harder for a police dept. to look good in bad economic times. Another thing Ms. Maxwell stated that Mr. Call said was never since records have been kept has the severity of the punishment decrease the crime, but economic conditions decrease crime. Again Ms. Maxwell thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and stated that she hope that all the citizens who are not a part of a Neighborhood Association to make contact with Laura Searfoss to get one started in their neighborhood.

Richard Crisp, Chairperson, PCRC

Chairperson Crisp thanked all the citizens for coming out to the meeting and gave a special thanks to Ms. Maxwell and Searfoss for assisting with coordinating the meeting.

Chairperson Crisp introduced himself and explained the purpose of Police Community Relation Committee.

- 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.

Chairperson Crisp asked each PCRC member to introduce themselves and the district they represented. The City Staff introduced themselves as well.

Starting a Neighborhood Watch Diane Kulik, former Chairperson, PCRC

Ms. Kulik gave the definition of "Neighborhood Watch" – a group of concerned residents that keep an eye on their street and are observant of the rest of the neighborhood. A neighborhood watch will help you and your neighbors take ownership of your neighborhood and improve safety.

Ms. Kulik presented three examples of how neighborhood watch works in her (Lynndale) neighborhood (appx. 50 people involved.) E-mail, phone tree, and contacting the police.

Ms. Kulik read an e-mail dated on December 7, 2011regarding a neighborhood watch report of how neighborhood watch works in your neighborhood. In 2006 – 2007 the Lynndale and surrounding neighborhoods had 64 auto break in's. Ms. Kulik stated that the neighborhood needed a lot of re-education regarding leaving items out in the open so that it could be easily taken by a thief. Ms. Kulik stated that one of the Lynndale meetings had 197 people to attend. At one time Lynndale neighborhood was the bate; the thief's were stealing and going back to tell others of their findings, which caused more break ins'. Ms. Kulik stated that if all the citizens would do their part instead of complaining then the program would really make a difference. Ms. Kulik asked the citizens if they were interested in crime or could they be committed. Ms. Kulik informed the citizens if they were interested in starting a neighborhood watch they could talk to her or Officer Jackson.

Ms. Kulik thanked Chief Anderson for all of his services here with the Greenville Police Department.

Using the Quadrant System to Greenville Police Department Sergeant Carlton Williams, GPD

Sgt. Williams explained the goal of the Citizen's Police Academy; which is to provide each participant a better understanding of the functions of the various units within the police dept. The academy also builds lasting partnership between the community and the police for a combined crime education effort. The Citizen's Police Academy meets each Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. for 10 consecutive weeks with a graduation ceremony. Sgt. Williams stated that in order for the community and the police dept. to become connected Chief Anderson felt that the police dept. needed to have more officers where the citizen know who exactly who the officer are in their area. Chief Anderson as well as the command staff developed a program called the "Area Policing Program, which split the city up in 4 quadrants. (A, B, C and D) This allows one area commander in a specific area the citizen can go to for help and to gather information.

Breakout sessions with GPD command staff

Neighborhoods were listed by police quadrant on the doors of each breakout session room. The citizens were provided an index card to put emphasis on a suggestion or idea they wanted to see the police dept. do throughout the year.

ADJOURN – 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Horne Administration Bureau Secretary Greenville Police Department Document (#917478)