

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

William Sam, Sr., Chairperson
Sandra Womack, Vice Chairperson
Meeting Date: January 19, 2012

Dwight Benoit
Tom LeTourneau
Paul Montes, Sr.
Glen Johnson
Irmalyn Thomas
Dwaine Augustine
Karl Duerr

Jesus Abrego
Bart Owens
Morline Guillory
Gene Bush
Ronald Bishop
Jeff Purcell

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Community Advisory Committee was held at **Beaumont Police Department**, 255 College Street, Beaumont, Texas on **January 19, 2012**. The meeting convened at **1:00 p.m.**

Members in attendance: Jesus Abrego, Dwaine Augustine, Karl Duerr, Jeff Purcell, William Sam, Glen Johnson, Ronald Bishop, Irmalyn Thomas, Morline Guillory, Paul Montes and Sandra Womack.

Members not in attendance: Bart Owens and Tom LeTourneau.

Police Department personnel in attendance: City Attorney Tyrone Cooper, Lt. Jason Plunkett, Captain Jim Clay, Captain Wayne Jeffcoat, Capt. Glenn Durst, Lt. Ky Brown, Sgt. Rob Flores

Benediction was by Karl Duerr.

Pledge of Allegiance

Review and Approve: November Minutes.

Ms. Irmalyn Thomas was introduced as a new member of the Committee.

Mr. Sam spoke about how far the committee has come since beginning a year ago.

Mr. Benoit is out of state so he will not be in attendance at this meeting.

Mr. Bishop and Ms. Thomas have not been assigned to any subcommittees yet. Mr. Duerr said that it was mandatory to go to the citizen police academy. Ms. Thomas and Mr. Abrego need to attend. Capt. Clay said that there is an academy that will be held February 2nd for 13 weeks every Thursday and two Saturdays. You must attend at least 75% of the classes.

There was no ride a longs done since the last committee meeting.

Old Business:

Mr. Augustine reminded everyone about the two proposals that were passed out to in November. He also had minutes taken from the survey subcommittee. He spoke about the formal survey and the cost associated with it. He would like a random sample that represents the whole community. Ms. Thomas wanted to know about the survey subcommittee. Mr. Augustine spoke about the history of the Community Advisory Committee and the survey subcommittee.

Captain Clay mentioned that the police department has a survey that can be sent to witnesses, etc. as long as they provide an email address, but we have had little response.

Ms. Guillory brought up that the survey could possibly be sent out with the water bills to help with funding and dissemination. She also wants to make sure the survey gets to every household.

Ms. Thomas wanted to know if we could do an informal survey instead of a formal one. Like a polling survey, random sampling of each ward.

Mr. Abrego wanted to make sure that the survey was bilingual. He also suggested maybe handing the survey out at the Fair. Mr. Duerr said that this would not be a consensus of Beaumont, since people from other cities attend the fair.

Mr. Bishop said that the informal survey could be done, since the committee members all belong to churches and civil groups.

Mr. Augustine said he would like to finish the survey and get something started since it has been a year. The Committee needs to make a decision and submit it to the Chief of Police. Mr. Tyrone Cooper said that the committee needs to attach a budget with the proposal and present it to the Chief.

Mr. Johnson complimented how the Chief of Police was able to help a woman that was being harassed by people in her area. Chief Singletary had a special task force come in and it was 80% resolved. She was so impressed on how he handled it.

New Business:

Mr. Bush wanted everyone to know that he was working on creating a formal letterhead used by the Committee members that would be used to send out a letter to try to get people to donate funds for the memorial, but a donation was made by the Victor Rogers Estate for \$15,000 and help finish off the money for the memorial itself. There is a maintenance cost, so anyone that knows someone that would like to make a small donation, please let them know that the police department would welcome the donation.

Mr. Bush met with Chief Singletary and suggested he start a "Coffee with the Chief". It will consist of 6 to 8 diverse people from the community. He suggested the Chief's Admin Assistant and a member from the Community Advisory Committee be present. This will be by special

invitation only and will be held early in the morning with muffins and coffee being served. Then once the meeting is over then a tour of the police facilities would follow.

Mr. Sam wanted to apologize for not reaching out to Officer Payton and Kibodeaux for the Outreach subcommittee, but that they had met and wanted to go over what was discussed. Ms. Womack said that they would like to have a monthly town hall meeting at different locations across the city. The meetings would be the 4th Tuesday of the month. The committee is trying to host one for February 28 at the LL Melton Center and would like for all committee members to attend. They would also like to invite the mayor, councilpersons, and maybe Officer Flanagan with recruitment. They would also like to have some crime statistics about the area in which the meetings will be held. At these meetings they would like to reach out to the community and get their input. The subcommittee would also like to promote this through Facebook and maybe send out a schedule of where they will be with the Water Bills. Ms. Womack asked Mr. Abrego if they could get an interpreter for the Hispanic community. Mr. Montes suggested that the committee attend the neighborhood watch meetings and expand off of those if we need to. The Committee would like to have a list of the Neighborhood Association meetings emailed or mailed to them.

Mr. Cooper informed the committee that the shooting incident is an on-going investigation and that you can not ask any questions that would jeopardize the investigation.

Captain Jeffcoat spoke briefly in regards to the shooting incident that took place on January 6, 2012. 9 Officers were put on Admin Leave w/pay. There were 7 officers directly involved and 2 officers that responded to the call. Sgt. Flores is over a team of officers that meet with the officer involved so that they can express personal feelings. These meetings are confidential. The officers are also sent to a psychologist to speak about what happened.

Mr. Bishop pointed out when adrenaline flows, most of us that have attended the academy understand what happens. Ms. Guillory asked if this was standard operating procedures for the department as to why the officers were put off of work. Ms. Womack asked if most of the officers that were put off on Admin leave were from Patrol and if the City was jeopardized. Captain Jeffcoat said that we always keep a minimum number of staff and if they were short they called in people to work overtime. Mr. Sam commended the City for getting directly involved to make sure that everything went well.

Mr. Bishop wanted everyone to know that the NAACP is having their Banquet on February 18, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. and it \$200 for a table. Mr. Johnson said he would cover the cost. So far those that have said they were attending are: Mr. Johnson, Ms. Thomas, and possibly the Chief of Police.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at **2:40 p.m.**

Minutes Taken by: Laurie Brack

**Administrative Assistant/Administration
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