

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Jon Reaud, Chairperson
Sandra Womack, Vice Chairperson
Meeting Date: July 16, 2015

Dwight Benoit
Tom LeTourneau
Alma Hodge
John P. Stafford
Karl Duerr
Calvin Williams, Jr.
Roy Steinhagen

Dwaine Augustine
Gene Bush
Glen Johnson
Jesus Abrego
Irmalyn Thomas
Douglas Rathgeber

Call to order by Chairperson Jon Reaud: A regular meeting of the Community Advisory Committee was held at **Beaumont Police Department Training Room**, 255 College Street, Beaumont, Texas on **July 16, 2015**. The meeting convened at **1:08 p.m.**

Roll Call-Sandra Womack

Members in attendance: Jesus Abrego, Gene Bush, Karl Duerr, Alma Hodge, Tom LeTourneau, Jon Reaud, John Stafford, Roy Steinhagen, Irmalyn Thomas and Sandra Womack.

Members not in attendance: Dwaine Augustine, Calvin Williams, Jr., Douglas Rathgeber, Glen Johnson and Dwight Benoit.

City and Police Department personnel in attendance: Lt. Spitzer, Assistant Chief Jeffcoat, Judi Rawls, Chief Singletary, Sgt. Guedry, Officer Nick Thompson, Officer Todd Jackson, Lt. Kelvin Wilson, Cindy Bloodsworth, Officer Tony Harding and Captain Clay.

Invocation: Irmalyn Thomas

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

May Meeting Minutes: Approved-Mr. Bush and Mr. Duerr

Mr. Jon Reaud welcomed Judge Kreeger.

Mr. Gene Bush introduced to the Committee Judge Charles Kreeger of the Ninth Court of Appeals.

Judge Charles Kreeger spoke to the Committee.

Chief introduced to the Committee Sgt. Cody Guedry who took over for Sgt. Flores in the PCR Unit. Sgt. Guedry told the committee that he is looking forward to working with them. Also, Officer Todd Jackson was introduced and he will handle calls that deal with the downtown area.

City Manager Hayes wanted someone to specifically be in this area to make contacts with businesses etc. and also attend Council meetings.

Mr. Reaud went over the attendance and wanted everyone to know that it will be an unexcused absence if you do not let us know that you are not going to be here. Everyone should let either, him, Ms. Womack or Laurie Witterstaeter, know when you will not be able to attend.

Mr. Reaud said that we will table for next time, to introduce Mr. Steinhagen, Ms. Hodge and Mr. Stafford to the Committee.

Ms. Womack thanked the Chief for the officers that attended the Community Forum, it was a great panel and even the youth group that sang was great. If there is anything that we need someone to sing at, this would be a great group to use. At the town hall meeting Ms. Womack said that there were a few ladies behind her that were very disruptive and she also expressed this to Pastor Benoit. She also mentioned that Pastor Benoit received the Pay it Forward honor for his church that feeds the homeless every Saturday and also received \$500.00 from DuGood Credit Union, which thanks Dugooders in the Community.

Mr. Reaud said that members of this Committee should sacrifice a little to commit themselves to working outside our meeting once a month. He went on to say that the Mayor, Council, the new DA, Chief, the new Chief at BISD, Chief Jeffcoat, Captain Clay, Sgt. Johnson and 2 or 3 more other officers along with the NAACP President, a member from the Alcohol Drug Abuse Council and Captain Earl White from the Fire Department were on the panel at the Community Forum. The church was only about half full. We need to work on getting more people to come to these meetings. There were 5 to 6 questions directed to the police department and some politically known persons were there to intentionally disrupt the meeting, in which none of these people even said anything.

Ms. Womack mentioned to the Committee to try to get your Pastors involved in the Police Department's CAPP program.

Ms. Hodge mentioned that we had great representatives from the police department that came and spoke to 45 senior citizens at West Tabernacle Church. They were overwhelmed and pleased to have them and also she was able to pass out the new brochure.

Mr. Reaud said if any committee member has something going on and would like the other members to attend, to let Laurie Witterstaeter know, so she may get it out on email.

Mr. Abrego said that he and the Hispanic community have been working with Officer Ornelas to have meetings in their homes because people do not speak English. Ms. Thomas suggested offering more English classes to teach them the English language that is used in our area.

Mr. Duerr said that Ms. Womack went on a 9 ½ hour ride along. It was on 1st Watch from 9:00 p.m. to 7:30 a.m. the next morning. He also commended her for her service and support. Ms. Womack said Lt. Tiner called her to make sure she wanted to ride out the whole shift. She rode with Deron Simpson and said that he is a great officer. She said he worked in dispatch for 4

years and wanted to be an officer. He said he would like to move up the ranks. She said we have a good officer in him. Mr. Duerr would like to encourage everyone to go on a ride a long. He has the forms if you need one. Mr. Reaud said that we should be riding out atleast 4 hours. Ms. Womack mentioned she went on a domestic violence call in which they did not understand what is involved when police have to come out to a home. She would like to see a way to educate citizens on what is involved on a domestic violence call.

Officer Carol Riley's commercial was shown to the Committee.

Mr. Bush said he has been working on these PSAs for the Police Department for 3 years. He has been turned down by Channel 6, but never had a bad meeting with Channel 12. He said that Channel 12 was all for this. Mr. Bush went on to say that the first PSA Channel 12 showed on TV was of Officer Carol Riley. For those who may not know, Officer Riley met a woman under a bridge on 11th Street and took her into her home, helped her get medical care and social security to where she was able to live in her own apartment and is now taking care of her mentally ill sister. He said that Officer Riley basically saved this woman's life. Every month they will air a commercial of an officer that has gone above and beyond the call of duty. This commercial will air on 4 channels 50 times during one month giving 200 exposures for the police department. Next month will be Officer Danny Valdez.

The "Lunch with the Chief" show will be once a month on Channel 12 news. Questions will be sent by email or called in to Cindy or Laurie, so that the Chief can view the questions that he would like to talk about. He will answer 3 to 4 questions and he is able to bring whomever he likes. This will be a taped program but aired live on August 3rd.

Ms. Womack wanted everyone to know about Officer Torres and Sgt. Duriso helped change her friends tire.

Chief wanted the Committee to know that it was nice to have them at the Forum the other night. He also introduced Officer Tony Harding which is now part of our PCR Unit at the Police Department. He sat on the panel and did a great job at the Forum and he is also going to be in a body building competition.

Chief said that we have now interviewed 20 persons that have applied for our vacancies. The next step will be a polygraph exam and drug test.

The police department is also revamping our Animal Services Department.

Cindy Bloodworth told the committee that the Citizen's Police Academy is starting on August 13th for those who have not taken the Academy yet. Also, on August 22nd we will have our Cops and Kids Carnival that was rescheduled from April. She would like for everyone to try to get a lot of people out there. She said it will be spread out between the Civic Center, Julie Rogers Theater grounds and the Library parking lot. Ms. Womack wanted Cindy to know she would like check in table and asked Mr. Abrego to work with her. She also brought flyers for the carnival for those who would like to place them around town.

Benediction: Jon Reaud

Meeting ended at 2:35 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 20, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Training Classroom

**Minutes Taken by: Laurie Witterstaeter
Administrative Assistant/Administration
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