

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Jon Reaud, Chairman

Shawn Javed, Vice-Chairman

Meeting Date: February 16, 2023

Dwight Benoit
John Dean
Carlos Hernandez
Sohaib Jabbar
Glen Johnson
Roy McGrath

Rodney Robichau
Bill Sam
Mary Williams
Thomas Sigeo
John Stafford

Call to order by Community Advisory Committee Chairperson Jon Reaud: A regular meeting of the Community Advisory Committee was held at the Police Training Room on **February 16, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.**

Members in attendance: Shawn Javed, Sohaib Jabbar, John Stafford
Glen Johnson, Roy McGrath, Jon Reaud, Rodney Robichau, Bill Sam, Thomas Sigeo, Mary Williams

Members not in attendance: Rev. Dwight Benoit, John Dean, Carlos Hernandez

Members of the Police Department in attendance: Chief Singletary, Assistant Chief Plunkett, Assistant Chief Jeffcoat, Captain Ocnaschek, Captain Schuldt, Captain Tyler, Kane Dean, Judi Rawls, and Emma Nelson

Guests in Attendance: City Manager Kenneth R. Williams, Mayor Mouton, Councilman Getz, Councilman Durio

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Prayer – Rodney Robichau

Moment of Silence for fallen officers

Roll Call – Vice-Chairman Javed

Minutes for January 2023 were approved

Chairman Reaud opened the meeting by introducing the City Manager of Beaumont, Mr. Kenneth R. Williams. He asked Williams to speak on strengths and weaknesses of the city.

Williams expressed his gratitude for having a quality police department here in Beaumont. He began speaking on the two main goals he has had since accepting the role of city manager: (1) to establish a solid founding for the city both internally and externally and (2) strategic planning. This second point involves intentional community conversations, creating a downtown plan, addressing infrastructure, public safety and quality of life. An economic development plan is also a goal, since the city seems strong to him but needs better management. He also expressed the desire to improve the technology of the city. This will require an investment up front that will benefit the city and the police department in the long-run. He also truly considers the Beaumont Police Department to be a strength of the city of Beaumont. Mayor Mouton asked if the department was recruiting locally for officers. Chief Jeffcoat said that a meeting with the 100 Black Men and NAACP was already planned. Also, the recruitment process was being revamped to offer a pay incentive to current officers. This has been a goal for while, as training a new officer is expensive (around \$75k) and inefficient. Williams expressed his support for this, as he has seen it work elsewhere. The status of minority recruiting was one of his first questions for BPD when he came to Beaumont. Bill Sam mentioned that it was a nationwide issue.

The conversation shifted to talking about the possibility of recruiting out of the schools. Chief Jeffcoat explained that dispatchers can be 18 and the department is currently discussing ways that Carolyn Lewis

(dispatch supervisor) could recruit in criminal justice classes, etc. Whether these people remained dispatchers or were funneled into police recruitment when they were old enough.

Sohaib Jabbar asked the manager what the biggest hurdle between he and the BPD had been. Williams did not feel like any real conflict or disagreement had arose yet. He felt like his goals and the police department's goals of strategically planning for the future were aligned. He commended the leadership of BPD for their openness in conversation with him.

Chief Singletary introduced Kane Dean as the new union president. Ofc. Dean said he sat in on the contract negotiations with the council and they had all run smoothly. Reaud and Javed both expressed this committee's willingness to contact council-people if there were ever any hurdles that the union was facing in negotiations.

Lastly, Sam recognized Captain Tyler's achievement as the first black captain of the Beaumont Police Department.

Benediction: Chairman Reaud

Meeting Ended: 2:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 23, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes Taken by: Emma Nelson/ Community Relations Specialist
Beaumont Police Department/Administration Division