

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Jon Reaud, Chairman
Shawn Javed, Vice-Chairman
Meeting Date: May 18, 2023

Dwight Benoit
John Dean
Roy McGrath
Rodney Robichau
Sohaib Jabbar
Carlos Hernandez

Glen Johnson
Bill Sam
Thomas Sigeo
John Stafford
Mary Williams

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 **May 18, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.**

Members in attendance: Rev. Dwight Benoit, John Dean, Carlos Hernandez, Sohaib Jabbar, Shawn Javed, Glen Johnson, Roy McGrath, Jon Reaud, Bill Sam, Thomas Sigeo, Mary Williams

Members not in attendance: Rodney Robichau, John Stafford

Members of the Police Department in attendance: Chief Singletary, Assistant Chief Plunkett, Assistant Chief Jeffcoat, Captain Ocnaschek, Captain Tyler, Ofc. Tom Swope, Judi Rawls, and Emma Nelson

Guests in Attendance: Lt. Craig Cummings, Deputy Shana Clark, Councilman Neild, Councilman Getz, Mrs. Vicki Johnson

Pledge of Allegiance

Opening Prayer – Chairman Reaud

Moment of Silence for fallen officers

Roll Call – Chairman Reaud

Minutes for April 2023 - approved

Chairman Reaud introduced Lt. Craig Cummings of Harris County DPS. He opened up with the “One Pill Can Kill” campaign about fentanyl. Before 2018, fentanyl was rare, now it’s expected that almost any pill at the crime lab will come back with fentanyl. The drug is mainly coming from China and through Mexico. Mr. Jabbar asked if this was organized or random. Lt. Cummings said that it is highly organized. At the border, the cartels are using drones to monitor the border patrol. They are partnering with human traffickers by tying up border patrol with huge groups of people at one location so that they can smuggle dangerous people elsewhere.

Rev. Benoit asked what the signs of addiction are. Lt. Cummings said unfortunately, most of the time there are no signs because fentanyl kills so quickly. Mr. Reaud asked why they would create a drug without the possibility of repeat customers. Lt. Cummings said that it is cheap and can be used to cut other things, plus there is no drop in customers. Mr. Jabbar asked about the fake pharmacies and if there were any local producers. Lt. Cummings said not locally to the Golden Triangle. There is one federal case where the fake pharmacy was addressed to an empty building. Lt. Cummings said that south of the border, they have two choices: poverty or cartel work. Cartels are using social media to attract locals and Americans. Americans are driving to the border and helping smuggle drugs. Rev. Benoit asked what nationalities/ethnicities were bringing drugs over. Lt. Cummings said that it varies. They have seen every nationality from latino to middle eastern involved with cartels. Mr. Reaud asked about the safety of U.S. pharmacies. Lt. Cummings explained how cautious U.S. pharmacies are because they know a single mistake would do them in. Chairman Reaud asked if the Feds were stopping the DPS in any way. Lt. Cummings said no, they work together. Everyone in this fight is limited by

resources and the cartel knows that. Another big issue is the casual nature that people are treating marijuana. Addiction can escalate quickly.

Benediction: Rev. Dwight Benoit

Meeting Ended: 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Police Swearing-In to serve in place of meeting. 06/12/23 at 3pm at the Event Centre.

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