

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Jon Reaud, Chairperson
Sandra Womack, Vice Chairperson
Meeting Date: May 21, 2015

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

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

Call to order by Acting Chairperson Gene Bush: A regular meeting of the Community Advisory Committee was held at **Beaumont Police Department Training Room**, 255 College Street, Beaumont, Texas on **May 21, 2015**. The meeting convened at **1:00 p.m.**

Members in attendance: Douglas Rathgeber, Calvin Williams, Jr., John P. Stafford, Gene Bush, Karl Duerr, Glen Johnson, Dwight Benoit, Alma Hodge, Irmalyn Thomas, Jesus Abrego and Tom LeTourneau.

Members not in attendance: Dwaine Augustine, Jon Reaud and Sandra Womack.

City and Police Department personnel in attendance: Sgt. Custer, Lt. Jason Plunkett, Sgt. Emilio Romero, Sgt. Onafre Tyler, Officer Danny Valdez, Lt. Kenny Spitzer, Cindy Bloodsworth, Captain Jim Clay, Judi Rawls, Sgt. Rob Flores, Chief Singletary and Lt. Cross.

Invocation: Dwight Benoit

Pledge of Allegiance-Alma Hodge

Moment of Silence

New Members John P. Stafford and Calvin Williams, Jr. gave a brief statement about themselves.

March Meeting Minutes: Approved-Ms. Hodge and Mr. Duerr

Mr. Bush said that our speaker Judge West is in a trial and will not be able to speak to the committee today. He said that maybe next month she would be able to speak if the committee approves.

All committee members and police personnel in attendance introduced themselves to the newest members.

Chief Singletary updated the committee on their operation dealing with the 11th street and I-10 corridor. Lt. Plunkett and Sgt. Custer gave a power point presentation and a count of how many

people were arrested and what they were arrested for. They also mentioned the agencies that were involved in the operation. Mr. LeTourneau thanked them for all their hard work. Mr. Abrego wanted to know if there was any human trafficking and Lt. Plunkett said that they did find a Hispanic female that had ran away, but was just prostituting. Lt. Plunkett also mentioned that they have the full support of the DA's office.

There is a recruitment manual released by our department to help in minority recruitment. The manuals can be handed out when you are speaking with a young person that maybe interested in law enforcement. Mr. LeTourneau wanted to know where they will be dispensed at. We will hand out to community leaders, at career fairs, Rotary Club and it will be available electronically on our BPD website. Mr. Abrego said that moms should bring these to their kids. Sgt. Flores said that citizens need to give these books to young people and start mentoring kids early. Ms. Thomas said that she deals with juveniles and right now she has a 12 year old that wants to be a police officer. Pastor Benoit said he would like to get 50 to distribute at his church. Ms. Hodge said that she has a group of 60 ladies at her American Legion Auxiliary that are grandparents and would like to get some to hand out to them also.

The police department has 6 or 7 openings right now and 213 applicants.

Sgt. Flores mentioned that they have started a reading program in the schools. The Chief also stated that we have a Trunk or Treat on Halloween and a Cops and Kids Carnival that run about 5000 kids through it and an explorer group that has done a great job.

A 3 panel discussion will be held at Pastor Benoit's Church and will cover racial profiling, etc. They are in the process of coming up with a booklet. We will let the Committee know the date.

Pastor Benoit said they have been working on the By Laws for the Committee and will have a draft to present by late July. Ms. Thomas welcomes any input.

Mr. Duerr thanked the members that went on a ride a long this past month. Mr. Duerr read his statement about his ride a long. Mr. Benoit mentioned he had a great ride out with Officer Serrant.

Cindy Bloodsworth said that the Cops and Kids carnival has been rescheduled to August 22, 2015 at the Civic Center and the Riverfront Park. She said so far everyone that was scheduled to come out is still on board.

Mr. Bush said that on July 1st we will have a monthly PSA ran on TV over an officer that has gone above and beyond. Officer Valdez was chose for his help with the Explorer group. Also Mr. Bush mentioned the "Lunch with the Chief" that they are working on to have questions that the Chief will be able to answer during that show.

No new Business.

The Committee sent flower to Mr. Bishop's funeral service.

Citizens Police Academy will start on August 13, 2015 and you can register online.

Benediction: **Douglas Rathgeber**

Meeting ended at 2:42 p.m.

Next Meeting: **June 18, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Training Classroom**

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