

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Jon Reaud, Chairperson

Sandra Womack, Vice Chairperson

Meeting Date: September 17, 2015

Dwight Benoit

John Stafford

Alma Hodge

Jesus Abrego

Karl Duerr

Douglas Rathgeber

Roy Steinhagen

Irmalyn Thomas

Glenn Johnson

Rev. David Robinson

Gene Bush

Calvin Williams, Jr.

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 **September 17, 2015**. The meeting convened at **1:00 p.m.**

Members in attendance: Jon Reaud, Roy Steinhagen, Irmalyn Thomas, Alma Hodge, Glenn Johnson, Jesus Abrego, Rev. David Robinson, Calvin Williams, Jr. and Karl Duerr

Members not in attendance: Douglas Rathgeber, Sandra Womack and Rev. Dwight Benoit

City and Police Department personnel in attendance: Chief James Singletary, Asst. Chief Wayne Jeffcoat, Assistant Chief Jim Clay, Judi Rawls, Cindy Bloodsworth, Officer Carol Riley, Officer Danny Valdez, Sgt. Cody Guedry.

Guests: Mayor Becky Ames, Councilman Claude Guidroz, Ward 1, and Mr. Dan Cummings and Nadia Cowart with KBMT-TV

Invocation: Rev. David Robinson

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Minutes from the August meeting were accepted via acclamation.

Special Presentation:

Gene Bush introduced guests from KBMT-TV and Chairman Reaud gave a review of the "Good Deeds" project sponsored by the TV station and the Community Advisory Committee. After reviewing the video segments involving Officer Carol Riley and Officer Danny Valdez, each were presented framed award certificates for doing their jobs 'above and beyond the call of duty'. Chief Singletary was also presented a framed award certificate for his participation in the KBMT-TV sponsored "Lunch with the Chief" segment that the station airs each month. The committee expressed their appreciation to KBMT with a round of applause.

Old Business:

Chairman Reaud read a letter from Sandra Womack that commended the Committee Members who participated in the Department's Cops & Kids Carnival held on August 22. In the letter she expressed appreciation to the Department for this project and the goodwill it creates for attendees, volunteers and police officers.

Cindy reported that approximately 3,900 attended this year's carnival. An after-action review for the carnival has already been conducted and ideas have been generated to improve the carnival next year. We will attempt to secure the same location for the 2016 Carnival.

The by-law review agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business:

Cindy reviewed the following events to which Committee members are invited:

Crime Stoppers Scholarship Presentation: Tues, Sept 22 | 4:00 p.m. | BPD Training Room

Motorcop Rodeo benefitting the 100 Club of Southeast Texas: Saturday, Oct 10 | 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Parkdale Mall parking lot at Macy's

Crime Stoppers of the Year Award Reception: Tues. Oct 27 | 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | Bmt Event Centre

Cops & Kids Trunk or Treat: Sat. Oct 31 | 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. | Civic Center and Police Station (haunted jail)

Field Education Reports: Alma Hodge, Jon Reaud and Karl Duerr made reports about their ride along experiences last month. Mr. Duerr followed his report with comments regarding his the value of ride-alongs for committee members. He further stated that he opposed the proposed revisions to the by-laws that make ride-alongs optional. Chairman Reaud stated that Mr. Duerr's objections were noted and went on to discuss the challenges involved in forcing individuals to participate in a ride along if they are not comfortable with it. He also stated that city council will be involved before final decisions regarding by-laws are made.

Chief Singletary's Comments:

Chief Singletary expressed appreciation to the committee for their work and the progress they have made to help the public better understand policing. Currently, he is exploring options with City Council to make changes to the Department's organizational chart that would provide for three Captains.

Asst. Chief Jeffcoat and Asst. Chief Clay had no comments.

Open Comments:

Irmalynn Thomas shared information about the South Park 100 Year Anniversary event that will take place on Sat., Oct 3 from 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at South Park Middle School. Donations are currently being accepted and committee members are invited to attend.

Karl Duerr encouraged committee members to attend regular meetings of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, which meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the BPD training room. Their next meeting is on October 20.

Gene Bush asked that the Police Department feature a link on our website similar to the one currently being used for Crime Stoppers. Cindy will look into that and make a report at the next meeting.

Glenn Johnson asked if there could be some sort of communication mechanism created where citizens could make reports or inquiries to members of the committee. A sub-committee will look into this topic and make a report at the next meeting. Sub-Committee members are: Glenn Johnson, Gene Bush, Irmalynn Thomas, Jon Reaud and Cindy Bloodsworth.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Benediction: Rev. David Robinson

Meeting ended at 2:25 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 15 at 1:00 p.m.

**Minutes Taken by: Cindy Bloodsworth
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