

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Mr. Jon Reaud, Chairperson

Mrs. Sandra Womack, Vice Chairperson

Meeting Date: April 19, 2018

Rev. Dwight Benoit

Mr. John Stafford

Ms. Alma Hodge

Mr. Jesus Abrego

Mr. Karl Duerr

Mr. Roy McGrath

Mr. Roy Steinhagen

Mr. Shawn Javed

Mr. Glen Johnson

Mr. Jonathan Owens

Rev. Vernon Tubbs

Rev. James Reed

Call to order by Community Advisory Committee Vice-Chairperson Sandra Womack: A regular meeting of the Community Advisory Committee was held at **Beaumont Police Department Training Room, 255 College Street, Beaumont, Texas on April 19, 2018.** The meeting convened at **1:03 p.m.**

Members in attendance: Rev. Dwight Benoit, Sandra Womack, John Stafford, Alma Hodge, Jesus Abrego, Karl Duerr, Roy McGrath, Shawn Javed, Glen Johnson, Rev. Vernon Tubbs and Rev. James Reed.

Members not in attendance: Jon Reaud, Roy Steinhagen and Jonathan Owens.

City and Police Department personnel in attendance: Sgt. Cody Guedry, Detective Jesus Tamayo, Lt. Curtis Breaux, Captain Jason Plunkett, Assistant Chief Jim Clay, Chief of Police James Singletary, Cindy Jeanis, Assistant Chief Wayne Jeffcoat, Councilperson Virginia Jordan and Councilperson Bill Sam.

Sandra Womack wanted everyone to keep Jon Reaud in your thoughts and prayers today.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Rev. Dwight Benoit.

Moment of Silence

Roll Call-Sandra Womack

Minutes for February 2018 were approved via acclamation.

Ms. Womack welcomed Councilperson Virginia Jordan and Councilperson Bill Sam to the meeting.

Ms. Womack brought up the invitation to attend the Annual Police Memorial that will be coming up on May 10th at 9:00 a.m. on the steps of the Police Department.

Assistant Chief Jim Clay went over a statistical report for the Police Department with comparison of other similar size cities. Councilperson Jordan asked if they are similar in demographics and Chief Clay said some are and some are not. Mr. Duerr asked what the relation to how many officers we have per thousand people. Ms. Womack asked if there have been an increase of domestic crimes since Harvey. Chief Clay said we would have to look into it. A question was asked how long does extra patrol last. Chief Clay recommended you still need to continue to call. Councilperson Virginia Jordan said that they are always calling for extra patrol. There was a discussion on home and business video systems. Sgt. Tamayo said that one video system captured a whole homicide that occurred. Councilperson Virginia Jordan said she wished citizens could see the clearance rates. Chief Clay said we will make sure the stats are available on our website. Sandra Womack asked why we are not a fan of "perp walk" down the back steps for media. Captain Plunkett said there is a safety concern. Councilperson Sam wanted more information on results of solving crimes and Chief Singletary said that he likes for public to see our successes.

Cindy Jeanis is working on our annual report and should have it ready for the next meeting.

Chief Singletary also spoke about Neighborhood meetings and the importance of them and how Councilperson Virginia Jordan has a very active neighborhood association meeting. Karl Duerr asked about Community Forums and the Chief said that we are planning another one with CAPP.

Karl Duerr spoke about people not slowing down and the increase of patrol cars around town. Chief Singletary also brought up the traffic unit can be sent out to hotspot areas around the City. Mr. Duerr said he was tapping on his brakes to try to slow down one. He said that people get right up on motorcycle riders, he said it is all about respect. Glen Johnson said that his employees reported about speeding in front of Westbrook. He said officers came out and made 17 contacts within 45 minutes. Councilperson Jordan wanted to know if citizens on patrol still exists and if they can be sent out to help with speeding or help identify those areas. Roy McGrath said that Citizens in Action group try to find anything that they can do to help free up officers.

Glen Johnson wanted to know if it is illegal to talk or text on the phone while driving. Chief Jeffcoat said that you can't text in Texas, but it is not illegal to talk on your phone.

Rev. Tubbs wanted to know where does police jurisdiction fall for officers and parking lots. Captain Plunkett said that it is private property and they do not write up paperwork unless serious bodily injury.

Ms. Womack also discussed Hwy 69 and how the lane to the left needs to be blocked off. Captain Plunkett said you would need to speak to DOT because signs have to be approved by them.

Mr. Duerr brought up the fact that to be on this Board you have to go through the Citizens Police Academy and he said that the other day at the CPAAA meeting their guest speaker was Chief Rod Carroll from Vidor PD. He said he spoke 45 minutes to an hour and was the most dynamic speaker. He suggested the advisory board attend a CPAAA meeting.

Rev. Benoit asked if the next meeting could be a discussion on check fraud and identity theft.

Invocation: Rev. Vernon Tubbs

Meeting Ended: 2:11 p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes Taken by: Laurie Witterstaeter
Administrative Assistant/Administration
Beaumont Police Department
255 College Street
Beaumont, Texas 77701