

CLEMSON POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Date: Thursday, August 29, 2024

Members in Attendance: Chief Campos, Winton Hunter, Steven Plant, Elaine Masceri, Kevin Dull, Sandy Edge, Saniya Burns, Jacquie Myers, and Pablo Unda, and Saniya Burns

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Madame Chair Lisa Robinson @ 6:00pm

Roll Call: Roll was called by Madame Chair Lisa Robinson. All members present. Welcome to our two new members Saniya Burns and Steven Plant.

Approval of Agenda: Winton Hunter made motion to approve, Seconded by Elaine. Motion carried.

Approval of previous meeting minutes – July 25, 2024: Kevin Dull made motion to approve, Pablo Unda seconded. Motion passed.

Motion to move meeting to September Meeting to Tuesday, September 24th, 2024 due to city scheduling conflict. Motion approved.

Citizen Comments: No citizens present in audience.

Presentation by Sheriff Elect Tommy Blankenship: Officially takes office in January. Three things in his campaign. ABC approach 1) Accountability-Need to do a better job of holding ourselves accountable. We should use our office to hold sister agencies accountable too in every decision they make should benefit our community. 2) Community Outreach. - Can't arrest all our problems away. Building community outreach helps impact the citizens more. Sheriff's office should be the pinnacle of Law Enforcement in the county. 3) Building relationships. At the end of the day that's what it's all about. To be a strong Sheriff's office we have to have good relationships with our municipalities. PCSO doesn't have it all and sometimes we will need their assistance. Leadership through service. Working on fentanyl education partnering with groups and behavioral health. If you have a group that needs to hear about it, we will be there. Kevin Dull asked about having the fentanyl group speaking with our board.

Lisa Robinson asked about community engagement with the youth and about the mental health interventions. With youth, will lean heavily on their SROs. Moving to restructuring agency to put SROs in with training and recruiting. Try to take every opportunity to speak with children. Have roughly 15 people now that can handle speaking to kids, etc. Speaking with a teacher at Liberty to develop a law enforcement program. Want to present law enforcement in a positive way to the youth. In ref to the mental health intervention, it is important to educate officers how to recognize mental health issues and know to look for it. Since the state doesn't have the resources for mental health housing, unfortunately the jail ends up housing people that need treatment b/c there is nowhere else for them to go. When it is a severe case they often end up at the hospital or detention. Try to host NAAMI training when possible.

Mr. Blankenship brought up Crime Stoppers. Organization that raises money to put reward money out for people we are looking for etc. They will need board members. It is a non-profit organization. We can have Helen talk to the board about it.

Department Status / Staffing Review: Chief Campos provided a synopsis of current matters with the Department.

- Two officer vacancies.
 - Had to ask one officer to leave
- two officers in field training - both are certified already
- two dispatcher positions open
 - making a job offer to one this week and the other was a former dispatcher.
- Age ID is back online again.
 - Pilot project til end of year

- Attended a behavioral health did a symposium at the Madren center about marijuana use. The projects sold today have the highest concentrations we have ever seen. In the 70s and 80s they were less than 10% and the stuff being sold today is at 99%. Chronic use of these products by people ages 16-26 are experiencing early onset mental health issues and psychosis. A lot is in the form of vape pens and gummies. Suicide rates are also higher especially in veterans that were prescribed it medically.

Crime Review: Chief Campos gave a rundown of the crime statistics for July 2024.

- 927 10-48
- 436 citations
- 5500 calls for service
- 40 10-50s
- 5 breaking and entering
- 3 break in to vehicles
- 2 motor vehicle thefts
- 15 drug arrests
- 12 liquor law violations
- We did make an arrest on the burglaries that occurred in the Crestwood neighborhood and several others.

Discuss and vote to recommend to city council to support House bill H4609 amending section 56-2-105 relating to golf carts riding at night: One of the things community members have asked for in the discussions to be able to drive them at night. Right now a municipality does not have the authority to authorize that. There is a bill introduced in Columbia to allow that. In current draft of our ordinance, we don't have anything about it b/c we could not but we can add that later if this legislation passes. If everyone here is in agreement, we can vote to recommend to council to support this bill. If council supports they will send a referendum to support it. Jacquie asked about the timeline for this bill. Chief Campos advised it's in subcommittee right now so we don't have a timeline yet. Reached out to Jerry Carter and he confirmed it's still there. Have not seen a corresponding Senate bill yet. Sandy Edge motioned, Jacquie Myers seconded. Motion passed.

Requested Presentations: Would like jail education program presentation and to have the city attorney do a presentation.

Board Member Open Discussion: Mental health co-responder has started at CU. Chris Herrington is new Deputy Chief. New AVP of Public Safety. She was a former chief at Ohio State University. Once she is set she will look for new Chief.

Pablo Unda asked about the lowering the speed limit. Chief Campos noted that a citizen wrote an email to council asking what speed is too fast for a neighborhood. Bob Brookover wants to drop it to 20mph. We adopted 25mph as the limit for neighborhoods. "20 is plenty" is the initiative that started overseas. Some towns in US have started. Discussion item was about should we do that? Should we put a city policy together about speeds in residential neighborhoods? What other things can we do instead of lowering the speeds? Engineering, lowering speed limits, narrowing, automated speed sign on Issaqueena? Bob Brookover had one of our mobile signs in his yard. He is supporting putting more of those out. They want to buy 8 more of those to put in neighborhoods. We are working with city engineer to decide where to put them. There are companies that use cell phone data to measure speeds in areas. Vision Zero is an initiative to lower traffic deaths to 0. It advocates for putting other measures in place.

The City saved money on bridge repair and are letting us use that to get more patrol cars. The 8 signs will come out of that too.

Madame Chair Lisa Robinson asked about any maybe public service announcements about scooter safety in conjunction with CU. Chief Campos will have to talk with Deputy Chief Harrington about it.

Corey Massey - lost battle with cancer. Laid to rest last week. CPD was involved in the funeral to honor him.

Adjournment: Kevin Dull made a motion to adjourn. Jacquie Myers 2nd. Motion passed.

Adjourned at 7:25 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 6:00PM on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, Council Chambers, City Hall.
Minutes submitted by Karla Jones, Admin. Assistant to the Chief of Police, City of Clemson.