

DRAFT

CITY OF FORT PIERCE

POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Regular Meeting - Thursday, June 13, 2019 - 4:30 p.m.

Fort Pierce City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 100 N US Highway 1, Fort Pierce, FL

Present: Melvin Jones, Sr.; Charles Hayek; James Edwards; Dr. Pinkie Hendley

Absent: Henry Duhart

Staff Present: Chief of Police Diane Hobley-Burney
Sergeant Jason Braun

1. CALL TO ORDER

4:30 pm

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of the May 9, 2019 Regular Meeting.

Motion was made by Dr. Pinkie Hendley, seconded by Melvin Jones, Sr. to approve minutes made by Pinky Hendley and seconded by Melvin Jones.

AYE: Charles Hayek, James Edwards, Melvin Jones, Sr., Dr. Pinkie Hendley
Passed

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Any person who wishes to comment on any subject on this Agenda may be heard at this time. Please sign the sign-up sheet in order to speak. Please limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes, as this section of the Agenda is limited to thirty minutes. The Police Community Advisory Board will not be able to take any official action under "Comments from the Public" section.

None.

6. OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

- a. None

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion on Unity in the Community to be held on July 11, 2019.

Unity in the Community July 11th

Member Hayek inquired on ways the Committee can be more proactive/visible to help the relationship between the community and the Police Dept. Staff suggested having a table at the Unity in the Community event, for attendees that may want to meet or have questions for members of the committee. Member Hendley expressed it would be an excellent opportunity for introduction to the community. Staff proposed community meetings in Districts 1 and 2 for citizens to meet committee members. Further discussion included ways of trying to get the adult population to attend Unity in the Community, since services, including health checks, are being offered there.

Bethune Cookman Engagement Program

Staff discussed Bethune Cookman Community Engagement program where they act as moderators between citizens and Officers, where Police Officers and residents can learn more about each other. Once plans have been finalized the Committee will be brought into it to be a part of the conversation.

Role of PCAC in Community

Members and Staff discussed ways to combat stigma of the City being divided by the bridge, that we should be one city, one united. Members spoke about being invited to any community activity that is happening; crime watch meetings, concerned citizen meetings, neighborhood watch meeting. Staff suggested starting a newspaper that citizens sign up for by email, to showcase the Department and their accomplishments, and the Advisory Board can be included.

Members and Staff discussed possibility of getting a slot on the City Commission meeting for the Chief or a Member to give an update on positives that are happening within the Police force, to include promotions, Unity in the Community and other activities organized by the Police Department. Members proposed also speaking with and getting information to their individual commissioners, to update the community so they can see the Police Department in a vein different than when Officers are responding to a crises. That citizens may not always here this information on the radio.

- b. Discussion on how to handle the conflict with Unity in the Community and the next Police Community Advisory Committee meeting date.

Motion was made by Melvin Jones, Sr., seconded by Dr. Pinkie Hendley to move next meeting from July 11th to August 8th.

AYE: Charles Hayek, James Edwards, Melvin Jones, Sr., Dr. Pinkie Hendley
Passed

Members and Staff discussed rescheduling or skipping July's Police Community Advisory Committee meeting due it falling on the same day as Unity in the Community. Members and staffed agreed on moving next committee meeting to August.

- c. Setting a graduation date for Citizen Academy attendees.

Graduation

Members and Staff discussed graduation dates and locations for committee members and ambassadors. Staff will check on possibility of graduation being done at the next City Commission meeting.

Summer Programs

Member spoke of youth sailing and summer camp, that there might be local business interested in sponsoring some activities. Staff discussed prerequisites needed for some summer program activities. Staff also discussed Summer of Success, where children are given training on different job functions, and also a volunteer opportunity through Catholic Volunteers at the Police Department.

Mental Health, Homelessness and PCAC Availability to Officers

Members and Staff spoke of ways Officers can make contact with PCAC Members about concerns they may have. Members' contact information will be made available to Officers, and Police Supervisors' contact information will be available to Members. Member expressed concern for assistance available to Officers who may be in crisis and Staff advised that information was presented at roll calls that help is readily available to Officers.

8. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Any person who wishes to comment on any subject may be heard at this time.

Please limit your comments to three

(3) minutes or less, as directed by the Chairperson, as this section of the Agenda is limited to thirty minutes. The

Police Community Advisory Committee will not be able to take any official actions under Comments from the Public.

None.

9. STAFF COMMENTS

Jason Braun apprised Members on his response from legal regarding Code of Conduct of Procedures, that they generally do not draft them but other boards and committees throughout the City have drafted them and they suggested this committee take what they like from those documents and forming their own, which legal would then review.

Diane Hopley-Burney expressed appreciation for Committee Members and the work being done on behalf of the citizens and the Police Department, and that a difference can be seen in the community. Also discussed were complaints that were made at a prior meeting that BWC video has exonerated Officers, that complainants declined coming in to view video.

10. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Pinky Hendley stated, at a meeting with Nicole Fogarty the Legislative Affairs Director for St. Lucie County, she got some valuable information regarding changes to the cell phone laws going in front of the Governor in terms of to law enforcement. Would like the committee to get a copy of a summary of the changes.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Melvin Jones, Sr., seconded by Dr. Pinkie Hendley to adjourn made my Melvin Jones and seconded by Pinky Hendley.

AYE: Charles Hayek, James Edwards, Melvin Jones, Sr., Dr. Pinkie Hendley
Passed