

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD METING HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2016, IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL ROOM.

The meeting began at 7:36 p.m.

Members present were: Rick Ransom, Kevin Hammett, Daniel Hamlin, Dea Zugby, Jamie Krauk, and David Moran, Staff Liaison.

Other City Officials present were: Thomas Kemp, Acting Chief of Police

Also present were: Michael Hartman, Josh Hamlin, Lois Rosado, Bob Rand, Cynthia Newcomer, Carolyn Lambright-Davis, William Davis, and Bill Orleans.

Welcome & Introductions

Dan read the Community Pledge.

Rick welcomed everyone. There were introductions.

Rick indicated that Sherry had a death in the family and reported that Reverend Ray had another meeting that evening. He indicated that long-time CRAB member Janet Parker had submitted her resignation.

It was noted the flyer was available and the survey/comment opportunity on the City website was up and running.

Michael agreed to provide a list of posting locations for the flyer.

Lois hoped people could voice their opinions and thoughts. She thought it was important for the Police Department to participate, learn and share procedural information with the Community. Lois stressed that every officer had to be respectful of the community.

Michael encouraged CRAB to be mindful that everyone had their own truth and we needed to listen and respect that.

Bob asked about Police participation. Tom explained that Police Command staff and beat officers would be present.

Bob asked about City Council participation. Rick explained that he had suggested to Council they listen and refrain from commenting or responding.

Cynthia suggested that the forum start with listening and that Police hold off until after the public had made their comments.

Jamie suggested that there be brief welcoming remarks but that significant time be allowed for active listening. She wanted to leave it to Dr. Marsh to moderate.

Cynthia thought it would be great for CRAB to say what they are doing.

Michael noted there are systemic issues versus personnel issues. He stated people need to know there will be a process whereby these concerns are investigated, follow-up and closure.

Jamie and Lois stated that there needs to be closing remarks that explain how the process will be dealt with.

Cynthia suggested publicizing results.

Bob raised the recent Presidential Election and noted this may dissuade some folks from participating in the forums.

Rick suggested a second forum in Greenbelt East.

Kevin suggested we involve the Youth Advisory Committee in any planning for a youth forum.

Dan suggested it might put the youth in an uncomfortable situation, He stated that there may not be time to pull this off. Dan believed there needed to be follow-up and there needed to be clear understandings of how things are handled and that CRAB would be making their recommendations public to the Council.

Jamie suggested a Resource Guide could be developed following the forums and there could be public reporting.

There was discussion about the next forums. Rick suggested that the Greenbelt East forum be held in early in December.

Lois believed the dynamic of the meeting was important.

There was some concern expressed about participation in the forums. William stated that if only a few people participate, but the information shared was good, then it was still beneficial.

Dan wanted to try and get one additional forum scheduled before we lose Dr. Marsh.

Michael suggested that attendance by the beat officers were important.

The meeting ended at 8:51 p.m.