

POLICE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Penn Wynne Library
130 Overbrook Parkway
Wynnewood, PA 19096
April 24, 2017
6:30 p.m.

The Police and Community Relations Committee meeting was held on Monday, April 24, 2017, at the Penn Wynne Library.

In attendance:

<u>Committee and Police Staff:</u> Superintendent Michael McGrath Captain Gene Pasternak Officer Josephine Murray Commissioner Steven Lindner Commissioner Brian Gordon Maryam Phillips Rev. Carlos Bounds Rev. Albert G. Davis, Jr. Linda Jackson Rose Johnson Tom McDaniel Robin Thomas	<u>Members of the public in attendance:</u> Crystal Blunt Adrian Seltzer Carl Watson Sarah McCafferty
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Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Maryam Phillips. Maryam went over the agenda and format for the meeting.

Minutes of the March 27, 2017 Meeting

The minutes from the March 27, 2017 meeting were approved, on motion by Reverend Davis and second by Superintendent McGrath. So moved.

Superintendent's Report

Police and Community Relations Consultant - Superintendent McGrath stated that Major Ben has provided an initial overview report to the Township Manager. The Manager will set up a

meeting with him over the next few weeks. Major Ben was given June as a timeline for his final report. He will also present his findings at a Board of Commissioner's meeting, which is open to the public.

Race for Peace Summit - Superintendent McGrath reported that there is a "Race for Peace" event on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, from 7 – 9 p.m. at Main Line Reform Temple, 410 Montgomery Avenue, Wynnewood. The format is the same as in the past. There will be a question and answer period, role play and panel discussion. Maryam encouraged everyone to go. The flyer will be posted on the Township's Website and Township's Facebook page.

Citizens' Police Academy - Started March 2 and runs through April 20, 2017. The Police Department is now going to have the Academy once a year and is deciding on the spring or fall.

Police Recruitment - Superintendent McGrath stated that the department is looking to fill as many as seven to eight vacancies sometime in June.

Two-Day Workshop with Montgomery County Chiefs of Police and the N.A.A.C.P – Superintendent McGrath stated that he attended a two-day workshop on March 31 and April. The program was a joint effort between the Police Chiefs Association of Montgomery County and local branches of the NAACP throughout the county. The program's focus was on understanding human biases and how to prevent bias from impacting behavior. The goal is to bring the program to police departments across the county through future training programs.

Camp Cadet Program – Reverend Davis asked Superintendent McGrath if it was too late to sign up for the program. Superintendent McGrath stated that they still have some slots open, however, if someone is interested, they should apply soon. Camp Cadet is a summer camp staffed by State troopers, local police officers, and volunteers for boys and girls between the ages of 12 to 15. The goal of the camp is to introduce participants to the diverse criminal justice system and establish a positive relationship with law enforcement personnel. This year, there are two camps. The first one, which is new this year, will be the week of July 30 through August 4, 2017 at Girard College, in Philadelphia. The second camp, which is the Montgomery County Camp, will be the week of August 20 through 25, 2017, at Camp Kweebec in Montgomery County. For additional information, people can visit the website at www.troopkcampcadet.com. There is a \$45 registration fee that will be required upon acceptance. That is the only cost associated with the camp. The camp fills up quickly. Apply early.

Officer Josephine Murray's Report

Officer Murray gave an update on Police and the School District and community relations projects.

1. Coffee With A Cop – April 26, 2017 at Hymies Deli, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
2. The Police Department is not testing at this time; however, officers are attending career fairs. They will be going to Peirce College, 1420 Pine Street, Philadelphia, on Thursday, April 27, 2017 for their college job fair. On Friday, May 19, 2017, they will be attending

the Spring Job Fair, sponsored by Councilman Kenyatta Johnson, at the Vare Recreation Center, 2600 Morris Street, Philadelphia. On May 13th, the Police Department will be sponsoring a Drug Take Back Day, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Ardmore Avenue Community Center, in conjunction with the School District, will be having a Health Fair on June 3, 2017, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Vernon Young Playground.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Public Comment

Adrian Seltzer stated that it is hard to find minutes and information on the Police and Community Relations Committee on the Township's website. Maryam Phillips stated that she needs to go to the Community Resources section and everything is readily listed.

Crystal Blunt asked if Major Ben will just be coming out one time to present his report. Superintendent McGrath stated that he will be presenting it to the Board and, most likely, will present at a Board Meeting, which is open to the public.

Sarah McCafferty stated that she was able to see the Police Complaint Form on the website and is glad to know that a person can come in person and fill out the form online.

Adrian Seltzer asked Officer Murray if the same officers attend the community policing events. Officer Murray said that they have different officers so the community can try to meet a variety of officers.

Carl Watson announced, and handed out flyers, on National Night Out, which will be held on Tuesday, August 1, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Wynnewood Shopping Center in the parking lot near Giant. This is changed because of the construction in Suburban Square.

Crystal Blunt asked if when Major Ben presents his report, will there be a Q&A period. Commissioner Lindner stated that they do not know yet, but that he will be presenting his report at a Board meeting.

Crystal Blunt asked if there will be role play at the Race for Peace event at Main Line Reform Temple in May. Captain Pasternak stated that there would be. He also said that the role play activity will be available on LMTV soon.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 22, 2017, at 6:30 p.m., at a place yet to be determined. When the location of the meeting is selected, it will be posted on the website and Facebook.

There being no further business, the public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Session

Members of the PCRC met in executive session to discuss ongoing issues in the area. There being no further business, this portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.