

**POLICE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

Mt. Calvary Baptist Church  
127 Walnut Avenue, Ardmore, PA 19003  
March 27 27, 2017  
6:30 p.m.

The Police and Community Relations Committee meeting was held on Monday, March 27, 2017, at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Ardmore, PA.

In attendance:

<u>Committee and Police Staff:</u>	<u>Members of the public in attendance:</u>
Superintendent Michael McGrath Captain Frank Thomas Captain Gene Pasternak Officer Josephine Murray Christine Dixon-Anderson Rev. Carolyn Cavaness Rev. Albert G. Davis, Jr. Linda Jackson Rose Johnson Marie Thornton Robin Thomas	Crystal Blunt Marifa Winfree Heidi Scheer Adrian Seltzer Carl Watson Mike Hays Sarah McCafferty June Coleman

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by Christine Dixon-Anderson. Christine went over the agenda and format for the meeting.

**Minutes of the February 27, 2017 Meeting**

The minutes from the February 27, 2017 meeting were approved, on motion by Superintendent McGrath and second by Robin Thomas. So moved.

**Superintendent's Report**

Police and Community Relations Consultant - Superintendent McGrath stated that Major Ben is continuing with the process and will give an update as it becomes available.

Race for Peace Summit - Superintendent McGrath reported that the “Race for Peace” forum was held this past Saturday at Faith Assembly of God, Philadelphia. It was not as big of a crowd as hoped. It followed the same format as the one in October with group interaction and role playing, showing what occurs when someone is stopped by the police. Some of who attended were: Police officials from Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Philadelphia Counties; and various faith leaders.

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 six vacancies sometime in June.

Camp Cadet Program – 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](http://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.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – None

**Public Comment**

June Coleman asked questions about the Citizen’s Police Academy. She asked how many people are in a class and what are the ages? Is this for youth as well? Superintendent McGrath stated that they like to keep the class limit to 12 to 15 people and that the program is for adults.

Adrian Seltzer asked Captain Pasternak if the recent Race for Peace Summit was conducted in the same format as the October one. He stated that it was the same.

Officer Murray gave an update on Police and the School District and community relations projects. (Please see attached)

Adrian Seltzer asked if she could have a copy of Officer Murray’s report. She was informed that she would see them in the minutes, once approved.

June Coleman stated that when she ‘googled’ her name, she found out that what she said in the meetings are recorded. She was told that what you say in a meeting are part of official records.

Crystal Blunt asked about the racial composition of total applicants. Superintendent McGrath did not have the information on hand and several people said that this information was given out several meetings ago and she can check past minutes. She was also told that military veterans receive ten extra points over and above the final score after the testing process is completed because they veteran's preference.

Crystal Blunt asked if there was any thought to running the Citizen's Police Academy during the summer or on any night other than a Thursday? Superintendent McGrath said that classes could be held on Tuesdays.

Crystal Blunt also asked if there is any thought to adding new members and young people to this committee. Reverend Davis commented that before adding new members, they will wait for the report from the consultant.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Monday, April 24, 2017, at 6:30 p.m., at a place yet to be determined. Reverend Cavaness stated that she would speak to Maryam Phillips about having the meeting at another location other than the local churches to be inclusive of the community. 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 7:05 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 7:35 p.m.