

Mayor's Blue Ribbon Crime Advisory Committee

November 19 2018, 12:30pm

LEC

Committee Members Present: Michael Meierhoffer, Chair, Bob Eaton, Vice Chair, Mayor McMurray, Bruce Woody, Chief Connally, Brad Kerns, Ron Holliday, Drew Brown, Pat Grove, Mike Cazel, Derek Conz, Janie Findley, Captain James McDonald, Sheriff Puett, Seth Wright, Dr. Mark Laney, Nicole Poirer, Lee Sawyer and Mickey Roberts

Presenters: Patt Lilly, Ron Fletcher, Tama Wagner and Ryan and Kim Hildebrand

1. **Chair Michael Meierhoffer** called the meeting to order at 12:30pm.
2. **Chair Michael Meierhoffer** shared famous quotes by Eleanor Roosevelt.
3. **Chief Connally** motioned to accept the minutes of the last meeting submitted by Bruce Woody. The motion was seconded by Mickey Roberts.
4. **Pat Grove** introduced Ron Fletcher, 27 year employee with the KCMO police department. Ron Fletcher spoke to the committee concerning the Police Foundation of KC.

The Police Foundation of KC was established in 2009. Betsy Solberg is the new chair. The initiatives under study are thoroughly examined in order to identify policing "Best Practices" and to ensure those chosen are applicable to Kansas City and will have the highest rate of success in reducing violent crime.

Each board member (18) is expected to raise \$25k each with city match, (50/50).

Goals to raise funds for:

- Software
- Special Training
- Ballistic Helmets and Shields

Any officer may make a presentation to the board for items to buy. Suggested item must have a nexus to reducing crime.

There is a Fundraiser Gala held every year to raise funds.

Information for the committee to review was:

- KCPD Policy
- Articles of Incorporation
- Equipment purchased since 2014

5. **Patt Lilly, CEO & President of the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce** presented to the committee: Two Perspectives: Business; Community at-large

Business Perspective:

- Shoplifting, credit card fraud, car theft and gun violence
- Indirect problem is that it makes it hard to attract and retain talent for businesses.
- Some of the problem is perception as much as reality.
- "Imagine St. Joseph 2040: Crime and public safety is a big part of the plan.
- How do we get neighborhoods involved in various issues?

CITY CLERK

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City's involvement: How do we engage the public to get involved?

- ✓ Neighborhood revitalization
 - Rental inspection program
 - Vacant property registration
 - Trash collection

- ✓ Key Dilemma:
 - City Council will get push back for things like trash collection and rental property inspection.
 - These are common main stream ideas that are common in most cities. We just need the political will.
 - We lose "talent" (trained employees) if we don't address these problems.

6. **Chief Connally** presented the most recent month's crime statistics (see attached). Total crime is down slightly.
- a. More deaths and injuries are due to motor vehicle accidents than in all other crimes combined.

7. **Vice Chair Bob Eaton** - Communications Sub-Committee:

- a. A communications strategy has been created.
- b. The committee has met every other week since August 2.
- c. Strategy: Three Things you can do to Reduce Crime: Take, Make, Know
 - i. 1. Take Your Keys
 - ii. 2. Make a Plan
 - iii. 3. Know Where to Get Help
 - iv.

8. **Ryan and Kim Hildebrand**: Mission House Covenant Community

- a. Addiction has the largest impact on crime.
- b. Meth is a bigger problem than Opioids.
- c. This group is looking on creating an inpatient detox and recovery center. Trying to purchase property just out of town.
- d. Has spoken to the Mayor and Marty Novak.

9. **Chairman Michael Meierhoffer** restated three points made from Ron Holliday's presentation last month.

Common trends of the past:

- 1. Church attendance was common.
- 2. Most families were of married parents.
- 3. Largely agrarian society.
- 4. More dynamic.
- 5. Respect for others.
- 6. Military was a requirement for most adults

10. Mickey Roberts made motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:55pm.

Next Meeting Monday, December 17 at 12:30pm at Inter-Serv, 5400 King Hill Avenue.

Prepared by Cindi Meers through Bruce Woody.
