

**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2009 5:30 P.M.  
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Walter Earley  
Shelly Weil  
Jose Herrera  
Regine Celestin  
Grace Maybee  
Jason Dollard  
Annette Annechild  
Samuel Menard  
Joseph Ingram  
Victor Kirson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jimmy Weatherspoon  
Sinam Al-Khafaji  
John Jackson

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Captain Javaro Sims  
Cathy Kozol

**STAFF ABSENT:**

None

**GUEST OTHERS:**

Alberta McCarthy

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Mr. Shelly Weil, at 5:32 p.m.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS:**

Mr. Victor Kirson was introduced at this time.

**3. APPROVAL AND/OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 13, 2009:**

Ms. Annechild made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Dollard. Said motion passed unanimously.

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Crime Update (Captain Javaro Sims)**

Captain Javaro Sims provided copies of crime statistics for District 1, 2 and 3. He discussed Part 1 crimes and noted that they are measured and sent to the State for review.

Mr. Herrera asked about the increase in larceny reflected in District 3.

Captain Sims explained that the numbers have increased due to larceny at car dealerships.

Mr. Herrera asked if the statistics are advertised to the public. Mr. Herrera feels that residents should know when crime has decreased.

Captain Sims stated that the statistics are provided to Homeowners Associations and handed out at conferences. Statistics are also discussed at meetings with other police agencies.

Mr. Herrera asked if the Police Department utilizes the National Crime Victimization surveys for the purposes of obtaining the number of unreported crimes. He went on to add that there are some minorities that do not report crime.

Captain Sims advised that police officers have contacts in specific communities and officers frequent those communities on a regular basis. He then noted that police officers have established a rapport with the residents.

At this time, Captain Sims presented the report on traffic crashes which he explained has decreased.

Mr. Weil asked for a status on the cameras to be installed at intersections.

Captain Sims stated that the request was approved by City Commission.

Police Legal Advisor, Cathy Kozol, stated that the Ordinance has been passed and a Request for Proposal advertised. There have been several bidders to date.

Mr. Herrera wanted to know who will be the responsible party when a citation is issued with the use of the traffic cameras.

Ms. Kozol advised that the owner of the vehicle will be cited. She went on to advise that the owner can sign an affidavit stating that they were not the driver at the time the violation occurred at which time the driver will be responsible.

Mr. Weil asked as to whether or not these cameras are illegal in the State of Florida.

Ms. Kozol stated that an Ordinance was established and it includes language stating that points will not be assessed to the responsible person's license in the event of a citation which makes the use of the cameras legal.

Mr. Weil inquired as to whether the traffic cameras will be an additional burden to the Police Department.

Captain Sims stated that they will have to view the tapes.

Ms. Kozol stated that the company who installs the cameras will view the violations that are clear and send them to the Police Department for their review.

Mr. Earley wanted to know which intersections will be monitored.

Ms. Kozol stated that the company will complete a traffic study and render a recommendation.

Captain Sims advised that Sergeant Richard Jacobson completes a traffic study each year which may be considered.

Ms. Kozol stated that the largest intersections will be considered.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. Introduction of Ms. Alberta McCarthy, Race Relations Coordinator (Mr. Shelly Weil)**

Ms. Alberta McCarthy, Race Relations Coordinator, talked about the race initiative explaining that the initiative is about a community having a healthy relationship with each other no matter one's race. She stated that in 2004 a strategic plan was done and Community Unity discussed. Community Unity is a platform created to help inform the community and bring the people of the community together. The idea was embraced as a part of the strategic plan and the RACE initiative was created. A consultant, Mr. Sam Mathis, was hired and soon after a young teenage boy was killed which caused some unrest in the City. The RACE initiative was already established and the crisis handled by the individuals involved. Statistics were done to determine how the community felt. A Town Hall meeting was also scheduled. From the displeasures received at the Town Hall meeting, it was decided that a Police Advisory Board needed to be formed. People felt that they could not trust police officers and felt that they needed to have a voice should they have a problem. However, the people who said they needed a Police Advisory Board formed are not attending the meetings with issues or problems. Residents are embracing Community Policing which has been very effective. Ms. McCarthy stated that she will be updating the data concluded in 2006 to determine the state of the City demographically. She went on to advise that changes have been made since 2006. There was one African American Department Head in the City at that time and now there are three. There have also been some successes in middle management and changes in the people who are now in positions to make decisions. There have also been great successes in the Police Department. Ms. McCarthy feels the people who attended the Town Hall meeting and expressed their displeasures need to be aware of the successes. Another Town Hall meeting will be held to take a pulse of the City at this time to determine if the City has concluded what needed to be addressed and to discuss what needs to be addressed next. Based on the information that is accumulated at the Town Hall meeting, decisions will be made regarding the existence of the RACE Relations Committee.

Mr. Weil spoke of a young lady who attended a City Commission meeting regarding a shooting that took place in her neighborhood. She did not feel as if she received the proper police treatment. Mr. Weil spoke to the young lady when the meeting ended, collected information and made contact with the Police Department. It was relayed to him that some comments made by the young lady were incorrect. In addition, there were some time factors to be considered. Mr. Weil informed the young lady to attend the Police Advisory Board meeting if she needed to. He went on to state that there have been

only six incidents since the creation of the Police Advisory Board where people were unsatisfied by the response of the Police Department. All issues were resolved amicably by the Police Advisory Board and the Police Department.

Mr. Earley wanted to know where the results of the data concluded will be publicized.

Ms. McCarthy informed him that the results will be disclosed at the Town Hall meeting and will be available in writing as well.

Mr. Weil commented that Ms. McCarthy is known to speak with someone on a one on one basis to diffuse any situation.

Ms. McCarthy feels that one may interpret an issue as discrimination when it is not. She feels that it may be necessary to communicate in a group session or one on one to make the determination as to whether or not a particular complaint is valid or invalid.

**7. DISCUSSION CONCERNING NEXT MEETING AGENDA:**

Mr. Kirson wants to discuss the proposed 10% reduction of police and fire funds.

Mr. Weil informed that the members can voice a comment but the budget is not for them to determine. The Police Advisory Board's function is to address people who are not receiving satisfaction from the Police Department relative to police matters.

Ms. Annechild would like to discuss ways to support the Police Department by representing the citizens of Delray who want the Police Department fully funded.

**8. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS:**

Board members spoke of term expiration dates for the current Board members.

Mr. Herrera announced that he graduated college earning his Master's Degree in Criminology and a certification in non profit management.

Captain Sims advised that there were 1,054 youth in attendance at the Youth Crime Convention summit at Village Academy. He added that there was a back to school bash where school supplies were disbursed, as well as, a sports day where fifteen professional athletes provided training for the youth.

Ms. Annechild spoke of an incident where someone knocked at her home during the night. She dialed 211 and the person that took her call made her feel comfortable. The next day she discovered that a home was burglarized.

Captain Sims stated that crime tips will be provided to the members at the next meeting. He spoke of indicators that make people aware that you are not at home.

Mr. Menard advised that there have been burglaries in the Chatelaine community.

Captain Sims advised that he will meet with Mr. Menard after the meeting to discuss extra patrol.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Earley made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Ingram. Said motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Mr. Shelly Weil, Chairperson, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

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Venice Cobb, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison

The undersigned is the Secretary of the Police Advisory Board and the information provided herein is the minutes of the meeting of said Police Advisory Board of July 13, 2009, which minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Board on \_\_\_\_\_.

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Venice Cobb, Executive Assistant/Board Liaison

NOTE TO READER: If the minutes you have received are not completed as indicated above, this means they are not the official minutes of the Police Advisory Board. They will become official minutes only after review and approval, which may involve some amendments, additions or deletions.

S/City Clerk/Boards/Police Advisory Board/minutes