

Community Wellness & Public Safety Council (CWPSC)

MISSION STATEMENT

Committed to leading the community problem solving-efforts that improve the quality of life for all citizens. Work assertively with the community to address the underlying conditions that lead to crime, disorder, and public safety concerns. Develop creative and innovative approaches designed to address all facets of community wellness, safety awareness, and education to protect all citizens of our community.

Meeting Minutes August 11, 2010

Chief Bergamine called the meeting to order at 4 pm. This meeting was conducted at the Bordeaux Library Conference Room.

Attendance: David Adams, Cumberland County School System
Chief Tom Bergamine, Police, City of Fayetteville
Captain Daniel Bjorklund, PMO Office, Fort Bragg
Jackie Blue, Advisory Council for People with Disabilities
Sergeant T. T. Coleman, NC State Highway Patrol
Dr. Michael DeValve, Fayetteville State University
Sergeant Eric Dow, Police, City of Fayetteville
Rachael Draughon, Police, City of Fayetteville
Captain Kenneth Eaker, Police, City of Fayetteville
D. Fowler, candidate for Senate
Latoya Gordon, Police, City of Fayetteville
Robert Grover, Fayetteville Police Foundation
Dan Grubb, Police, City of Fayetteville
Joe Hafner, XVIII Airborne Corps, Accident Investigations
Chanieca Hudson, Police, City of Fayetteville
Bobby Hurst, Councilmember, City of Fayetteville
Connie King, Police, City of Fayetteville
Rebecca Lemings, Citizen
Michele Lindo, Police, City of Fayetteville
COL Mary Maier, Emer Services & 16th MP Brigade (ABN)
Kathleen Ruppert, Police, City of Fayetteville
Captain Tom Salmon, Fire, City of Fayetteville
Captain Jeff Stafford, Spring Lake Police Department
Captain Roger Sullivan, Fire, City of Fayetteville
Janie Pinkston Sutton, SBI
Jackie Tuckey, City of Fayetteville, PIO
Lisa Vogel, MADD Sandhills
Margie Whitehead, Citizen

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Chief Bergamine welcomed all attendees and following the agenda, asked the four subcommittees and the volunteers assigned to those groups to schedule a meeting prior to the next CWPSC meeting to establish goals and objectives and bring those ideas to discuss on September 22.

A list of subcommittees and the members assigned to them was distributed and additions were made (two additions for Marketing & Promotion, three additions to Legislative).

Chief Bergamine started the meeting with updates from the sub-committees starting with:

Update for Marketing & Promotion Sub-Committee (Jackie Tuckey). A new logo idea was distributed for members to take a look at. We want the logo to be all inclusive. Some ideas were discussed and Jackie asked members to submit any further ideas to her.

Update for City/Military Relations (Joe Hafner). Joe invited all members to attend National Airborne Day on August 14 at the Airborne Special Operations Museum. He also announced that in September will be the first time in over 7 years that all of Fort Bragg will be home, no one deployed. Fort Bragg lost two senior ranking individuals recently in vehicle accidents. Joe commented that Fort Bragg units continually work with Crime Prevention & Traffic Units with safety briefings.

Sergeant Dow announced that the VINS program/tow reporting is working with Fort Bragg to get soldiers to volunteer to give their vehicle information prior to deployment so that if their vehicle is towed, we can contact their designated person(s) to avoid exorbitant fees. Sergeant Dow also pointed out the influx of traffic on Cliffdale Road, and other locations, due to several repaving/resurfacing projects, which cause lane closures.

Update from Legislative Sub-Committee: Chief Bergamine reported that a couple of things were recently passed that affect law enforcement. First, internet cafes (gambling machines) are circumventing law already in place. They lead to crime issues due to potential victims with large amounts of money. The growth alone in this business (6 to 7 opening a month) causes problems. Businesses become targets and these establishments offer no social value for communities. This new law takes effect on December 1, 2010.

Second, Chief Bergamine explained that until 1982, local law enforcement could conduct inspections that only ABC & ALE officers can do now. If a business operates without a business license, we can enforce now (except for nightclubs). This was cut out; however, it will be addressed again at upcoming session.

Upcoming legislation: Selling K-9/Spice, repeat offenders, and getting some things in place for front end programs.

- K-9/Spice (chemical blend), stronger than marijuana, smoke shops are permitted to sell. Chief Yaniero from Jacksonville had a situation where a Marine jumped off a tower and another serious situation at Camp Lejeune. We've made recent arrests lately involving this item. Our strategy, join together with Chief's Association and Metro Chief's Association to educate, educate, and educate for the safety of our children. Also working with the school system to make them aware. (Kim will email flyer to all CWPSC members).

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- Repeat Offenders: On September 7, 2010, Chief Bergamine will be presenting an update for the Community Wellness Plan to City Council and the citizens of Fayetteville. It contains several new initiatives. Chief Bergamine participated in a Roundtable discussion last week at Campbell Law School and will be attending an upcoming meeting with Metro Mayors.
- Things in Place: With the closure of facilities, this places extra burden on probation & parole. Hopefully we're making progress with expansion of our local jail; however, it takes time.

Update for Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). Dr. DeValve reported that the CJCC would like to set priorities for short term and long term goals, and reinforce some of those issues just discussed on the legislation discussion. He also encourages "open communication".

Captain Eaker spoke with the group about "Quality of Life – Night Life Ordinance" currently being looked into. There is a committee consisting of various personnel (Rob Anderson – Inspections, Karen McDonald & Brian Leonard – City Attorney's Office, Jamie McLaughlin – Downtown Development, and several police department personnel) who recently attended a seminar in Wilmington. We are not unique and we brought back several ideas. One big thing, zoning strengthens ordinances, code enforcement should not be viewed as a punishment. Everyone is a stakeholder. Michele Lindo, Crime Prevention Specialist volunteered to join this group. Kathleen Ruppert suggested that Community Watch Group Leaders might be a good group to invite to volunteer. Dan Grubb will ask for volunteers on social network (Nixle and/or Facebook).

Dan Grubb gave a brief explanation of the social networks (Nixle & Facebook). Nixle.com is best described as a "bad guy twitter". It is "free" and you can choose how much and the type of information you'd like to receive (via computer, phone, texting, photos). Dan is receiving calls from different states and other police departments are asking questions. We have a mother who turned in her own son, and then requested that we remove him from the computer because of the exposure he was getting. FPDfacebook.com is a "positive" social network. We do not report "bad guy" news on Facebook. Sergeant Dow stated that we can provide traffic information regarding areas to avoid due to road closures. Chief Bergamine asked how other law enforcement agencies can participate. Best for them to have their own accounts; however, they may contact Dan with information they'd like to share. Biggest challenge is getting subscribers (people to sign up). This will be a goal/objective for the Marketing & Promotion subcommittee.

Ms. Vogel, the MADD Sandhills representative announced that in September, Judge Tucker will be unveiling a new Sobriety/DWI Court. MADD Sandhills will be sponsoring the meeting on September 13 at 6 pm in the Pate Room at the Main Library on Maiden Lane. Captain Eaker and Sergeant Dow will be active participants with the Sobriety/DWI Court. There was some discussion about similar (pre-conviction) courts in other counties and how they move these cases through the system faster and more efficiently. Chief Bergamine spoke about "problem-solving" courts and a paper written by a Judge in Wake County expressing success with specific crimes (research being conducted) and how sometimes these programs pay for themselves. Ms. Vogel also talked about the success of (post-conviction) court in Mecklenburg County. They have been in operation for 10 years.

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David Adams discussed school zones and the congestion that comes at the beginning of the school year. This year we have several schools changing school start/stop times to help eliminate traffic; however, there is much construction going on now and there is always more traffic in the first few weeks of school. Kaleidoscope is producing a video for September and Sergeant Dow assisted the school system with the presentation. David Adams also explained that the Cumberland County School System has new style buses (5 – 7 feet longer) and the outside mirrors have cameras. Drew Brooks is working on a story regarding teen driving. Chief Bergamine remembers a good article in the “Saturday Extra” explaining when it’s necessary to stop for school buses. Dan can use this information and educate the public with this information on the social networks.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

ALL

- Consider goals & objectives, and measurements for success
- Subcommittee team leaders need to schedule a meeting and bring “goals & objectives” to next CWPSC meeting (September 22).

MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR 2010:

September 22, 2010	Fire Station #14, 632 Langdon Street at 4 pm
November 3, 2010	TBA
December 15, 2010	TBA

PLEASE e-mail Kim Gardner at kgardner@ci.fay.nc.us to notify when sub-committees are scheduled to meet.