



Greensboro Criminal Justice Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2019

The Greensboro Criminal Justice Advisory Commission (GCJAC) convened its monthly meeting at 6:02pm on the above date in the Nussbaum Room at Central Library. Chair David Sevier led the meeting.

Commissioners Present: Sevier, Phillips, Nazim, Gethers- Clark, Friedland, Jalloh & Webb

Commissioners Absent: none

PCRB Members present: K. Brown & Q. Brown

PCRB Members absent: O'Brien

Staff Present: Barbara Harris, Assistant City Manager, Greensboro Police Chief Wayne Scott, Sergeant Adam Latisha McNeil Criminal Justice Administrator

Legal Department present: Rosetta Davidson Assistant City Attorney & Andrea Harrell Police Attorney

I. Call to Order:

Chair Sevier called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

II. Moment of Silence:

The meeting opened with a moment of silence

III. Meeting Minutes:

The meeting minutes from the February 2019 meeting were not approved due to all members not having received their copies prior to the meeting. They will be sent to members not receiving them.

IV. Review of the Boards and Commissions Handbook GCJAC & PCRB drafts

Copies of drafts were given to all the commissioner and board members for review. Handbook information will be updated and added to the City of Greensboro's Boards and Commissions Handbook.

V. GPD Body Worn Camera Directives presentation

Chief Scott and Sergeant Adam Bell spoke about GPD's policy on body worn cameras. The Chief explained the process in which the body worn camera are used by police officers and how cameras are operated.

VI. Roles and Responsibilities of Commissioners and Committee members

Latisha McNeil, Criminal Justice Administrator, spoke about GCJAC commission and PCRB roles. She indicated that the GCJAC deals with issues on the policy and systems level whereas PCRB deals with individual complaints. Commissioner Phillips expressed that PCRB members are encouraged to attend GCJAC meetings and to participate.



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VII. Commissioner Reporting Documents

Commissioners and Committee members are asked to submit their reports via email on the Monday prior to the next GCJAC meeting.

Attorney Davidson cautioned that if members are signing their names to petitions or are working with community groups on a specific issue and that issue comes before the PCRB, members would be asked to recuse themselves from a PCRB complaint to maintain impartiality.

Chair Sevier again mentioned that individuals are not to speak on behalf of the commission. The GCJAC works together as a whole and the executive committee can serve as spokesperson for the body.

Commissioner Jalloh spoke about the GCJAC having a brochure that can be passed out to the community that talks about what the commission does as well as steps to filing complaints. This will be discussed further.

Discussion continued about the best ways to get information to the public about the GCJAC. Chair Sevier suggested forming a subcommittee to address ways to get information to the public. Commissioners Jalloh, Nazim and PCRB Committee member Q. Brown expressed interest in bringing back thoughts to the body.

Commissioner Friedland recommended having information available in different locations where the public goes such as grocery stores.

Community member Latasha McCorkle asked about getting the word to the people who directly interact with police and suggested placing information in the courthouse.

CJ Administrator McNeil advised that an action plan is being developed to help structure all the ideas of the body.

VIII. Review of March 7th Forum, and plans for “what’s next”

Discussion continued about the March 7, 2019 forum. The event was successful and Chair Sevier spoke about getting other commissioners to lead forums in the further.

Commissioner Gethers- Clark spoke about work that the United Way is doing on poverty and social determinants for criminal justice. She agreed to develop a forum on the topic with help from Commissioners Webb & Friedland.

IX. Restraint Methods Study Subcommittee

Commission Phillips presented a report from the subcommittee that participated in the GPD’s task force on restraint devices. From their research the group determined there were no devices that functioned better than others and only a limited number of manufacturers produce restrain products. The outcome of the subcommittees report indicated that a combination of devices including a sit beat and ankle straps can be used to transport a person.



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During the research with the task force the subcommittee started looking at “excited delirium,” as well as other medical conditions and ways to deal with individuals who experiencing them. The subcommittee worked with the task force to suggest to the Chief of Police that more research focus on “excited delirium” issues, and that the Department try to work with the Greensboro Fire Department and EMS to develop a strategy to safely deal with individuals who may be experiencing this or other conditions that could cause similar behavior.

Committee member Q. Brown reiterated the information reported by Commissioner Phillips and stated that the GCJAC should remain engaged on the subject to ensure changes are actually made.

Discussion continued regarding use of mental health professionals in the city and suggested looking at what facilities such as hospitals do in restraint situations.

Commissioner Sevier mentioned that the Commission will also address “use of force” and that the group could potentially look at conducting a forum surrounding the issue.

X. Addition Discussion

Community member Latonya McCorkle presented a Washington Post article looking at traffic stops across North Carolina, noting differences in policing in Greensboro depending on what side of town you happened live. She asked the commission to review it. Chair Sevier mentioned the demographics of the commission were created to include diverse backgrounds and people that make up the city demographics. He thanked her for the information.

Community Member Latoya Alston presented her non-profit organization Rae of Sons focused on assisting children and families that are affected by living in low income neighborhoods. The organization teaches key principles by using principles of Kwanza, character development and spiritual growth.

Community member Jessica Clark spoke about the importance of understanding mental health.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Phillips. Seconded by Commissioner Nazim. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.