



## Greensboro Criminal Justice Advisory Commission

### Meeting Minutes

July 18, 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, Nazim, Webb, Phillips, Jalloh, Gethers- Clark & Friedland

**Commissioners Absent:** none

**PCRB Members present:** Q. Brown & K. Brown

**PCRB Members absent:** O'Brien

**Staff Present:** Latisha McNeil, Criminal Justice Administrator, Trey Davis, Assistant City Manager, Capt. Harris & Lt. Thomas Moore, GPD Professional Standards

**Visitors:** Sheena Beasley, Latoya Alston, Latosha McCorkle & Katrina Bass

**Legal Department present:** Rosetta Davis, Assistant City Attorney

#### **I. Call to Order:**

Chair Sevier called the meeting to order at 6:04pm

#### **II. Moment of Silence:**

The meeting opened with a moment of silence- Focused on the immigration situation in America and the families that are impacted.

Chair Sevier asked if the City had taken some sort of stance on the matter and Asst. City Manager Davis stated that the Mayor and Chief Scott had made some comments surrounding the situation last year and that Chief Scott stated that the police department does not act as I.C.E Agents. Commissioner Jalloh stated that it might be time for the Guilford County Sheriff department and the Greensboro Police to take stance on the situation especially from the Sheriff's department.

Chair Sevier asked that Commissioner Jalloh put together a statement for the commission to consider sending to the City Council

#### **III. Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes from the June meeting will be sent prior to the next meeting for approval.

#### **IV. Data inquiry for potential study**



PCRB Committee member Kay Brown wants the group to consider a study or incentive to look into the use of hemp versus marijuana. She stated that her goal is to possibly have the She made a PIRT request to get data on the number of arrest that took place for possession of marijuana where the person had hemp instead. She stated that the hope would be that the commission could look at the data and identify any patterns or trend in the arrest. From that information, the commission could potentially issue a recommendation to the GPD and the City Council on how they prioritize marijuana. She made a request for data to requesting the arrest and search records broken down by age and race where marijuana was used as cause as probable cause or to search personal property. She was notified that data does not exist. Police attorney Andrea Harrell stated that the police do not track probable cause sight or smell of marijuana for arrest. They do track marijuana arrest/ citations however. Kay Brown responded that if she would have had the information that the lack of explanation (just stating they don't have without offering alternatives is part of the reason why some have a mistrust of the police department.

Commissioner Tom Phillip stated that the group should make the request of the data from the GCJAC and not individually from Committee member Brown. The GCJAC administrator informed the body that they need to decide as a group that they would like to look at marijuana data for potential study and recommendation.

Discussion was held as to why the information would be needed and what the purpose of collecting the data would be. Chair Sevier asked the administrator to work to get data that may identify trends.

#### **V. Review of Criminal Justice and Poverty Forum**

The GCJAC June 26, 2019 Criminal Justice and Poverty forum was very successful. The forum had a great turn out. Feedback from the community was very positive and many people asked that the GCJAC do a follow-up forum. During the forum, people were asked to get into small group and come up with things they see within the Criminal Justice system that can affect the cycle of poverty. The list of ideas from the community spoke about the issues of bail and victimless crimes as two major topics of concern. The GCJAC will continue with follow up programs. Discussion was held by the group about different ways to promote follow-up discussion and getting more youth engaged.

Commissioner Nazim and Committee member Kay Brown talked about the youth outreach subcommittees goals to get into the school system and the steps they are taking to develop a plan to move the project. The body discussed ways that it could get into the school system and wanting to get feedback from youth about what they want to talk about.

#### **VI. Semi-Annual Report and Strategic Planning 2019- 2020**

The semi- annual report is being completed by the executive committee the draft will be sent to the rest of the commission for review prior to the next GCJAC meeting. The strategic planning will include the



ideas that are currently being worked on by the body. The commissioners will be able to give input and ideas on the plan.

Committee member Quentin Brown asked about getting data on complaints quarterly. Chair Sevier asked that Q. Brown get with the PCRB subcommittee chair to review data and determine if it is something that the GCJAC will need to look into further.

#### **V. Visitors Remarks**

Lt. Moore introduced himself, as he is the new Lieutenant for GPD Professional Standards under Capt. Harris. Other Community visitors introduced themselves as well.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:02pm