

**Meeting:** Community Leadership Council on Gun Violence Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, August 14, 2014

**Location:** Myer's Park Community Room

**In attendance:** Chief DeLeo, Edward Clark, Buck Chambers, Eva Mannings, Nancy Daniels, Betsy Henderson, Steve Harrelson, Reggie Bouthillier, Annie Harris, Rick Flagg, Rudy Ferguson, Wilson Barnes, Gloria Pugh, Heather Mitchell, Ken Tucker/US Attorney Office

**Absent:** Pam Hightower, Twanetta Rollins, Jack Campbell, Pam Marsh

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Chief DeLeo called meeting to order at 3:08pm

### **Welcome & Introduction**

#### **Chief's Report & Discussion**

Chief DeLeo reminded Council of the two Gun Buyback events taking place this weekend.

- Friday, August 15, 2014 @ Thomasville Road Baptist Church from 6:00p-8:00p
- Saturday, August 16, 2014 @ Bethel AME Church from 1:00p-3:30p

There will be three to four open forums for the council members to hear the communities concerns. The first one will likely be held the last week of September. In addition, the council should set up multiple means of communication to receive citizen's input.

Mr. Barnes stressed that there needs to be a forum without police presence so that people can speak candidly about the issues and concerns that they have.

Mr. Clark suggests a community readiness assessment be done by the council with members of the community to gather information on the issues and concerns. Would like to use the City and County Commissioners to provide input. Once the assessment is completed, council will identify what the issues are and what will be addressed first.

Chief DeLeo feels that an outside facilitator is a good idea because it will allow for unfiltered feedback. He does not want the perception to be that the outcome was determined. Mr. Clark doesn't feel that will happen because there will be a 9 step process to gather information from the community. Part of that process is to meet the client where they are and let them tell us what the needs are. Once committee reaches out to the community the council will address the concerns and design an assessment based on what the group needs to know.

Pastor Ferguson has 25 Pastors interested and aware of the goals of the committee. He feels that it would be a good idea to use the churches/pastors in all areas to distribute the surveys in all of our communities. The surveys can be left in a drop box at the churches.

Ms. Mannings feels that we need to be sure to include homeowners, including CONA. Mr. Flagg's suggestion was to have someone from the subcommittees attend the Home Owner Association meetings. Ms. Harris stressed that we need to involve and solicit information from the schools.

Mr. Tucker (Ms. Marsh's rep) encouraged council to not spend too much time planning or the community will lose interest. Members need to be out there now sharing what the council is doing to keep the momentum.

Due to some of the council members having concerns with the facilitator, the decision to hire someone will be made as a group. After a group discussion, it was agreed that an outside person would be able to bring in a different perspective and ensure that the appropriate things are being covered.

Chief DeLeo reminded everyone that the councils focus is on gun violence. While addressing this, it will help other things fall into place, police-community relations, poverty, jobs, etc.

Pastor Ferguson asked Mr. Clark how long it will take to conduct the survey. Mr. Clark shared that he's already started some of the ground, but needs to meet with the subcommittee to identify the issues.

Mr. Bouthillier feels that the Facilitator should be more of a Project Manager and do quality control to ensure that the subcommittees are on track and tie the council subcommittees together.

Ms. Daniels wants to make sure that the council includes the perpetrators in the process.

Mr. Chambers reiterated that the universities and students are critical to the community and need to be included in the process.

Chief DeLeo wants there to be able to define some common definitions for gun crimes, shooting incidents, and the crimes that will be tracked, etc. The council also needs to determine if the information provided will be based on FDLE Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) or Florida Statutes.

Mr. Bouthillier recommended that we have Minutes at meetings. Chief DeLeo committed his assistant Angie to the group council meeting.

Mr. Clark made a motion to use Roberts Rules of Order, seconded by Mr. Bouthillier.

### **Subcommittee Discussion**

The subcommittee groups were modified to better meet the needs of the community. After reviewing the list, all council members accepted the subcommittee groups.

Mr. Clark asked to add the Department of Health to the council group. The group agreed to not add members, but to reach out to other partners and resources, as needed.

Ms. Henderson wants to add youth and offered to relinquish her seat to give someone from DJJ or a youth the chance to participate. No other members will be added as this is the core group; however, feel free to send Chief DeLeo an email out a list of some young people that would be willing to participate.

Chief DeLeo made a Motion to adopt subcommittees and determine who will be the coordinator of each, seconded by Mr. Barnes.

After council express concerns of having the resources to carry out some processes, Assistant City Manager, Dee Crumpler assures the council that they will have all the resources they need.

There will be a member of Chief DeLeo's Executive Staff on all of the subcommittees to assist administratively. In order to avoid a TPD dominated council, these members should not be the subcommittee coordinators.

Mr. Clark made a motion that Chief DeLeo should be the Council Chairperson until a Facilitator/Program Manager is appointed, seconded by Mr. Bouthillier.

The Secretary will be Chief DeLeo's Assistant, Angie.

DeLeo made a motion to select a coordinator for each subcommittee. They will be responsible for scheduling the future subcommittees meetings.

- Assessment Coordinator - Edward Clark
- Education - Pam Hightower
- Neighborhood and Faith Based Organizations - Pastor Rudy Ferguson
- Criminal Justice & Reentry - Nancy Daniels

Subcommittees should plan to meet in two weeks. Subcommittee coordinator should contact Angie at 891-4341. She will keep the master calendar of all meetings.

Ms. Pugh wants to do PSAs to promote awareness on gun violence using social media and television/radio commercials on WCOT, FAMU, and WFSU. The group discussed a social media plan. A suggestion was made to bring a communications group/person onboard to coordinate a consistent and clear message.

### **Open Discussion**

We need to determine how much of our problems is: gun violence, domestic violence etc.

Chief DeLeo is working on getting stats from our Crime Analysis Unit. The subcommittees must narrow their focus before staff is tacked with pulling stats. The committee needs to shape questions to get the data wanted. The goal is to be consistent with numbers so our focus eventually falls below the state average. Chief will invite someone from the Crime Analysis Unit to assist and explain data, as needed.

The goal is to bridge the disconnect between all neighborhoods. Once the public forum dates are set, members should be advertising and advocating attendance at the future meetings via social media. There should be structure and decorum.

Chief will do his best to have the facilitator on board before the next meeting.

Angie will schedule the next council meeting 2 weeks after subcommittees meet.

**Community Speakers**

Pastor – He has a billboard on S. Monroe St. and has been reaching out to youth to find out what they would like to see done to help rid our communities of gun violence. Many people he has spoken with want to go to school.

Mr. Dale Landry commend the council. The NAACP is working with Urban League, THRC, COT, NOBLE, LEON CO SCHOOLS to conduct a youth forum on Missouri in approximately two weeks. On October10, there will be a 2 hour workshop in Panama City on homicide by gun violence.

Meeting adjourned 4:41pm