



Community Based Crime Reduction Program

Cross Sector Strategic Planning Team Meeting Minutes

City Hall - 117 W. Duval Street - Mayor's Large Conference Room (via Zoom)

Thursday, November 12, 2020

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened 1:07 p.m.

Attendees: T-Neisha Tate, Dr. Charles Moreland, Jerry Box, Dr., Assistant Chief Derrick Mitchell, Mike Weinstein, ASA Vironica Brown, Kiaira Nixon, Tyrona Clark-Murray, Kendra Mervin, Arquan Joseph, Lynn Sherman, John Pappas, Dr. Fern Webb, Kristopher Smith, Jeff Sheffield, Ennis Davis, Glenn Weiss, Dr. Pauline Rolle, Dr. Kristina Wilson, Misty May, Stephen Siegel, Jynelle Robinson, Dr. Nicoa Garrett

Discussion:

Kendra Mervin, CBCR Program Coordinator, called the meeting to order. After welcoming the Cross-Sector Team members, she thanked them for their attendance and asked them to introduce themselves and their organizations. She briefly went through the agenda for the meeting and then asked the subcommittee chairmen to give their reports.

Economic Development and Education Subcommittee

Jerry Box shared that the subcommittee conducts its meetings every Monday at 1:00 p.m. and opened the door for other members to join if they so desired. He then expressed his gratitude about receiving a free CBCR banner from Jax Color, a local graphic design business that hopes to continue partnering with the program. The banner will be kept in the CBCR office and can be used by any of the subcommittees. He provided a brief visual presentation covering his meeting with Amazon and the Florida Department of Corrections, during which time a pilot program of Amazon becoming a new Second Chance employer was discussed. He then reported that he and Mike Weinstein were able to tour the art murals designed to attract local businesses to Jacksonville that were painted by Shawana Brooks. Jerry welcomed Jeff Sheffield, Chief Executive Officer of North Florida Transportation & Planning Organization, to give a presentation. Jeff thanked everyone for the opportunity to speak and provided background about himself and his work with North Florida Transportation & Planning. He explained that his organization has been working on an initiative called ***Smart North Florida*** that focuses on connecting organizations to create job opportunities for those within underserved communities.

Community Outreach Subcommittee

Misty May conveyed that the Outreach Subcommittee has been working on the first Community Impact Day event scheduled for November 21st, 2020. The effort is in partnership with the New Town Success Zone and Celebration Church. Pre-packaged food will be distributed in addition to



bags of hot food containing information about the CBRP. Misty explained the process of the food give way and how the first CBRP community feedback survey will be completed during the event. Those who participate in the survey will be entered into a raffle drawing. Misty shared that the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office will help distribute the food and assist with traffic control. Kendra Mervin added that Assistant Chief Ellis Burns confirmed that Zone 5 would provide 5 officers to support the event.

Crime / Public Safety/ Social Justice Subcommittee

Assistant Chief Derrick Mitchell introduced the kickoff of the CBCR *Quality of Life* (Blight) Subcommittee that has been formed in partnership with JSO and the City of Jacksonville's Solid Waste Division and Neighborhoods Department. The focus is to provide a sustainable rapid response to environmental issues that directly impact crime, such as illegal dumping. The subcommittee will also develop neighborhood education programs to help reduce blight. Assistant Chief Mitchell expressed his desire to change the behavior of residents dumping unwanted items onto abandoned properties. The subcommittee will also work with ProChamps in the future to identify and track abandoned properties. It is anticipated that working with ProChamps will bridge gaps between existing City methods of handling abandoned properties and absentee landlords in the targeted area. Assistant Chief Mitchell concluded that the subcommittee is collaborating with JSO Assistant Chief Ellis Burns to conduct warrant sweeps in the focus neighborhoods to enforce outstanding criminal warrants.

Housing and Community Development Subcommittee

Kendra Mervin provided the Housing and Community Development Subcommittee report submitted by Chairman Chiquita Moore. She conveyed that the subcommittee has completed the first application draft for the CBCR neighborhood association and small business mini-grants that will be included in the Early Action Plan. The final grant application will be available in late December. The subcommittee will be hands on to encourage local businesses, nonprofits and organizations to apply and attend technical assistance workshops.

Ennis Davis gave a brief presentation on the USNR Property, U-Haul Storage and Dennis+Ives business and revitalization projects taking place in the targeted program neighborhoods. Ennis stated that he would give updates on the progress of these projects in future meetings as they develop. Kristopher Smith suggested connecting these revitalization projects to actual quantified capital flow (i.e. make an effort to put a dollar amount to the private and local investments in the area).

Health Subcommittee

Dr. Pauline Rolle, along with Lynn Sherman, are researching and identifying service gaps in existing health programming within the focus neighborhoods. Their findings will be used to draft the proposed strategies to impact health disparities, specifically mental health services. Dr. Rolle stated that mental health needs are not easily identified because of the psychological issues that result from violence and environmental factors. The subcommittee has reached out to various



mental health organizations to get a better understanding of what program services are currently in action, their effectiveness, and opportunities for improvement. This information will also be shared with the community. Dr. Rolle discussed Mobile Response Teams that respond to incidents in the community simultaneously with law enforcement and emergency services. The collaborative effort helps provide a comprehensive assessment of what happened and what mental health services are necessary for violence-related traumatic experiences. Dr. Rolle expressed that there were several entities doing different work within the community as it relates to mental health. She did express great concern that her subcommittee has already identified some service gaps that must be addressed to specifically reduce crime. The subcommittee's biggest desire is to help the community residents know what resources are available to help improve their health and ameliorate poverty.

Other Early Action Plan Initiatives

CBCR, LISC, Pepsi, the Jacksonville Jaguars, Visit Jacksonville, and other agencies are supporting the upcoming "Black Restaurant Week," which begins November 27th and ends December 6, 2020. Support is to bring awareness to the event and set the stage for the Black Restaurant Accelerator Program in 2021 that Pepsi and the National Urban League will champion. Kendra affirmed her desire to include related economic development initiatives with the potential for notable economic impact in the CBCR program neighborhoods. Kristopher Smith also shared more details about these upcoming initiatives. He then stated that LISC is in the process of distributing grant awards to 10 Black-owned restaurants in Jacksonville totaling over \$100,000 to help keep their doors open during the pandemic. Kristopher stated that a meeting has been scheduled to take place tomorrow. Stakeholders will discuss the specifics regarding connecting this campaign to long term economic development efforts.

Kendra Mervin went into further detail about the new *Quality of Life* (Blight) Subcommittee that will be formed under the Crime / Public Safety / Social Justice subcommittee. Presently, Assistant Chief Derrick Mitchell will lead as the subcommittee's chairperson.

Kendra welcomed everyone to participate by sharing feedback and comments regarding the upcoming events.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:17 p.m.

The written minutes for this meeting reflect an overview of the full discussion.