



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, March 11, 2021

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

Meeting Convened 1:04 p.m.

Attendees: John Pappas, Dan Durbec, Marc Swatt, Shellie Solomon, Mike Weinstein, Tyrona Murray-Clark, Jynelle Robinson, Vironica Brown, Bryan Mosier, Chiquita Moore, Assistant Chief Derrick Mitchell, Misty May, Kristopher Smith, Julie Ann Rivera, Stephen Siegel, Jerry Box, Linzee Ott, Dr. Kristina Wilson, Adrick Johnson, Mia Hobdy, Kimberly Pryor, T-Neisha Tate, Eliza Macouch, Willie Johnson, and Garland Scott

Discussion:

Kendra Mervin, CBCR Program Coordinator, introduced new CBCR Subcommittee members that will join the team within the next couple of weeks. She reminded the team that it is crunch time to submit requested updates.

Education and Economic Development Subcommittee

Jerry Box updated the committee about the successful turnout of the Job Fair and ten people were hired on the spot. He thanked the team for referring jobseekers to the event. He reminded the committee about the hot jobs email that gets sent out 11:00 a.m. daily. He shared more information about an Amazon black employee network program that provided employees with transportation and career mentorships. Amazon hired on 179 employees from the 32209 zip code. He mentioned "Operation New Hope" and will release details shortly. He also stated that Amazon connects their employees to self-help credit unions and conducts financial literacy counseling on site. Jerry will host a Small Business Appreciation luncheon Wednesday March 24th. He hopes to give Business Owners the opportunity to communicate with Contractors and Large Employers. He reintroduced the idea of an entrepreneur training Book Club. He reminded everyone that CareerSource will host a Youth focused job fair called SkillsUSA. SkillsUSA will allow youth to network, seek mentorship, and job training with compatible Career Professionals.

Discussion:

Mia Hobdy asked if each subcommittee's accomplishments that are documented for the report could be shared during the committee meetings. Kendra Mervin stated that the Cross Sector Strategic Planning meetings is the best time for each subcommittee to share positive impacts and accomplishments with the subcommittees.



John Pappas praised the Planning Department for doing a good job in explaining how Food Trucks Owners can expand their businesses. Kristopher Smith informed the committee that food industry entrepreneurs are growing despite the pandemic. He stated the event was important because Food Truck owners might outgrow their food truck and will need commercial space.

Community Outreach Subcommittee

Mia Hobdy shared that the February 27th cleanup had a great turnout. She also shared that for the next community impact day they are thinking about a grocery distribution with a healthy cooking demonstration.

Crime / Public Safety/ Social Justice Subcommittee

Assistant Chief Derrick Mitchell suggested to have a community walk throughout the target areas and have conversations with the community members about issues they are tackling. He updated everyone that blight officers are still canvassing the targeted areas, focusing on nuisance board-ups, reporting unsafe structures, and restoring delapidated commercial property. He stated he will meet representatives from One-Cop on the March 22nd. to discuss them potentially supporting his initiative. He mentioned one of his major concerns is that the city, law enforcement, and youth are not connecting. He met with the Florida Sheriff Youth Ranch and was introduced to a free eight-day summer camp in Hilliard, Florida. He happily reported that due to that meeting JSO was reserved slots for the summer camp and wishes to give some local children the opportunity to do outdoor activities. He strives to build the bridge between JSO and local youth.

Discussion:

Vironica Brown wants to find a free summer youth sports program to keep the vulnerable children out of trouble and build their character. She shared an idea to have Amazon or Comcast/Xfinity distribute security cameras to residents in volatile neighborhoods. She informed everyone that the “Dolly Parton Imagination Library” provides quality Blue-Ribbon approved books directly to children. She also shared that there is a onetime fee of \$126 for 60 books but the age limit is 5 years old.

Quality of Life Subcommittee

Bryan Mosier praised those that assisted in their amazing cleanup event. He shared that 200 bags of trash were collected and dumped. He stated that some people who lived in the neighborhood saw them so they stopped and joined them at the cleanup. He proposed that next time they should communicate with residents a little better about cleanup events.

Housing and Community Development Subcommittee

Chiquita Moore reported that she is waiting on the Landscaping Project for columns pricing. She shared she wants to pressure wash existing columns, get metal letters for a “Durkeeville” entrance sign, put new fencing around Hank Aaron Park, place baseball player silhouettes around the parks, polish the landscape, and add additional lighting.



Health Subcommittee

Lynn Sherman reported that they have identified ways to bring the community together so they can develop neighborhood champions. She stated a resident involved with Family Support Services conducted neighborhood surveys. The data revealed that the community would like more wholistic social activities to bring hope back to the community. They are planning to bring all community Mothers together to begin a walking program. The 30-minute daily walking program will include discussions about personal, professional, and community issues. She hopes to connect residents with current healthcare resources and introduce "Pop Warner" sporting events. She mentioned they are performing asset mapping to address healthcare disparities and food insecurities.

Justice & Security Strategies Research Firm

Shellie Solomon suggested that each committee take before and after photos so she can track their respective improvement. She informed the health committee that she will be getting the asset maps out to Kendra Mervin very soon. She then suggested that everyone itemize their ideas and document them in the required format for their respective proposals.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:13 p.m.

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