



City of Jacksonville – The Jacksonville Journey

Law Enforcement & Deterrence Sub-Committee

MINUTES

OF

LAW ENFORCEMENT & DETERRENCE

SUB-COMMITTEE

INCREASING SCHOOL SAFETY

WORKGROUP

January 24, 2008

The Jacksonville Journey – Law Enforcement & Deterrence

Sub-Committee, Increasing School Safety Workgroup

January 24, 2008 - 11:45 a.m.

PROCEEDINGS before the Jacksonville Journey - Law Enforcement & Deterrence Sub-Committee, Increasing School Safety Workgroup taken on Thursday, January 24, 2008, Edward Ball Building, 8th Floor - 214 N. Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida commencing at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Law Enforcement & Deterrence Sub-Committee

Paul Perez, Chair
Ed Hearle, Member
Joe Henry, Member
Bishop Howard, Member
John Jolly, Member
Henry Luke, Member
Frank Mackesy, Member
Isaiah Rumlin, Member
Lanny Russell, Member
Joe Stelma, Member
Melissa Nelson, Member
Michael Weinstein, Member

Increasing School Safety Workgroup

Joe Henry, Chair
Paul Perez, Member

APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE CHAIR & MEMBERS:

JOE HENRY, Chair

PAUL PEREZ, Member

STAFF:

MISTY SKIPPER

ALICE CHECORSKI

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

PROCEEDINGS

January 24, 2008

Law Enforcement & Deterrence

11:45 a.m.

Call to Order and Comments. Chairman Henry called the meeting to order at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Purpose of Meeting. Discuss the Mayor's crime initiative - The Jacksonville Journey - Take a Step - Law Enforcement & Deterrence Sub-Committee, Increasing School Safety Workgroup.

Misty Skipper reported that there is another workgroup, Education, Truancy, Dropout and Literacy which is also taking a look at school safety.

Chairman Henry then said we could be better served by reviewing and identifying the parameters of what should be in the school safety plans which were developed after the incident at Columbine High School. Suggestions include school safety at special events, zero tolerance on guns, drugs and violence in schools.

Misty Skipper stated we should review the safety plan outline as a primary objective or focus area of this workgroup.

Chairman Henry recommended we use Dr. Walter Harris and Reggie Lewis as subject matter experts and invite them to attend a meeting. Misty Skipper will get the contact information from Chairman Henry.

The workgroup identified the following focus areas:

1. **Technology:** What are the schools doing now with regard to video surveillance, metal detectors, alarms, walkie-talkies, etc.? Is it productive? Is there something better available

or is what they have working?

Misty Skipper recommended calling JSO do to a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) analysis. Chairman Henry said there is usually a cost associated with the analysis.

2. **Education and Training:** For example, are teachers, students and volunteers on the same page regarding fire drills, safety manuals, etc.?

3. **School Safety System:** Chairman Henry raised the following questions to be looked at: Are visitors being tracked and is it mandatory that they sign out upon leaving? How does the school secure its campus? Is it the responsibility of the SRO? Are they present in lunchrooms? Chairman Henry recommended a program for each individual school with the focus on prevention, intervention and enforcement.

Chairman Henry led a discussion on school safety at special events and what the protocol is for getting people safely off campus. He recommended that a map of the premises be given to school security as well as an outline of duties during and after the game.

Misty Skipper suggested taking a look on a school-by-school basis to review their specific plans for deployment.

Paul Perez stated that each school should have a briefing relative to their school's particular issues. These issues should be addressed under the heading "enhancing or updating school safety plans" and "assault and battery on school teachers".

In summary, the workgroup recommended the following action

items to focus on:

1. Update and enhance school safety plan manual including an enforcement protocol for special events; review technology (cameras and fences), and sweeping lockers periodically.

Misty Skipper provided the following action statement:

"A team made up of representatives from law enforcement, prosecutors, the State Attorney's Office and School Board will review the school safety plans within the next six months and include these things we are addressing."

2. Assault and battery on school teachers: Florida Statute has a law on assaulting a teacher. Paul Perez said we should look at raising awareness through training.

3. Curfew: Find an effective way to enforce a curfew.

Misty Skipper reported that the Juvenile Assessment Center should be re-opened by the end of summer. This recommendation should be made upon the condition of the center's opening.

Misty Skipper will discuss these action items with the counterpart in the other committees so we do not duplicate efforts. Paul Perez then said that the Education and Truancy sub committees will look at us for law enforcement and school safety.

2. Action Items

Both Joe Henry, Chair, and Paul Perez stated they would like to attend the next sub-committee meeting for Education and Truancy. Misty Skipper will check the calendar for the meeting date and time.

Misty Skipper announced that the next workgroup meeting is

scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

3. Discussion Items

None

Adjournment:

Chairman Henry then dismissed the meeting at 12:38 p.m.