

Minutes of Cobb County Neighborhood Safety Commission Meeting
June 21st, 2019 8:30-10am
Cobb Co Commissioners' 3rd Floor board room

Carol Massey opened the meeting. Meeting minutes from April, May and June will be reviewed/voted upon in August. July is a vacation month traditionally for the NSC and will be honored this year. Many activities in the community to be involved with as a member of the NSC.

Attendees:

Carol Massey, Chair
Andy Smith, Vice Chair
Jeff Wood, Secretary
Sam Heaton
Richard Rubio
Scott Tucker
Carlton Stott
Neil Fuscillo
Rev Brian

Cobb Co Commission Chair, Mike Boyce – Ex Officio Member
Public Safety Director, Mike Register
Chief of Police, Tim Cox
Chief of Fire & Emergency Services, Randy Crider

Dir Register opened with some key elements and issue that are being worked or changing within the County for Public Safety:

- Key crime statistics will change. In the past, an alleged crime was counted as one crime even if more than one may have taken place in one event. Going forward the crime statistics will count all the alleged crimes.
- Total vacancies are up and a pay adjustment/bonuses are being considered by the Cobb Board of Commissioners to address this.
- For future retirees, a “Legacy Meeting” will be held one year prior to departure for key individuals to identify potential key nodes of single-point-failure

Chief Cox introduced himself and his background in Cobb Co. and provided some key notes of interest:

- Overall crime is down 10%
- All homicides from previous years have been solved
- Prct 5 is still experiencing a spike in entering autos in the night time hours. A community meeting will be held in Prct 5 at McEachern Community Church. Goals of the meeting are to:
 - Interact with the community directly
 - Educate citizens of what is happening, what is being done about this situation and how they can assist Law Enforcement
- Without an endorsement of a single system or manufacturer – the new, less expensive camera units and the Ring Community neighborhood watch system is helpful to law enforcement. Law enforcement, Community Affairs, can be of assistance to home owners or businesses to identify the best location(s) and type (camera, license plate reader) for the situation.

Chief Crider provided an update and observations for Fire & Emergency Services:

- A new PAT (Physical Agilities Test) is coming on-line for personnel with the new training facility
- Vacancies are a complex issue. There are new stations coming on-line and are in the process of opening, other personnel are in training. It's important to dig deeper into the details when looking at the numbers
- Members of the City of East Cobb have yet to come to Chief Crider to discuss the potential decisions and ramifications of their decisions on the whole of Cobb Co. Although, when they do, he does not plan to endorse one way of supporting the issue but will continue to relay factual information as he knows it.
- Education and Transparency
- More diversity needs to be achieved across the County. Those who serve a particular part of our County should more closely represent the community membership.

Chairman Boyce summarized and addressed questions/concerns regarding Public Safety funding.

- The mileage rate increase that was voted upon and passed by the Board of Commissioners has allowed Cobb Co to retain its AAA Bond Rating, now able to secure more funding for Public Safety personnel (details of this are yet to be voted upon by the full Board of Commissioners) as well as restart at old levels of service for Seniors, Parks etc.
- Town Hall meetings are a key to this County's success when it comes to high-profile initiatives and decisions like the above. The more people are involved and know – the better and more representative the final decisions are typically going to be.
- There is a new and increased focus on South Cobb partnerships between the community and land lords. Participation in this partnership will allow this community to change for the better. It's been change that is a long time, too long coming.
- Chairman Boyce would like to see (mandatory) education and training for County personnel in the area of Retirement Planning. There have been significant changes to the systems over the years and now it really important for people to understand what types of decisions and the best decisions for they and their families to make now.

Carol Massey closed the meeting.

Reminder – July is a vacation month for the NSC. Keep involved and communicate with other NSC members on programs and/or initiatives that can be pursued.

Meeting minutes will be voted upon in August for April, May and June.

Next meeting will also be in the BOC Board Room.

Sept meeting will be with the Cobb Co Solicitor General's office

TBD – meeting with Cobb Co District Attorney's office.