



Board of Director's Meeting Report

July 22, 2021

First Baptist-Broad, 3:30 p.m.

The Crime Commission Board of Directors meeting was called to order by board of directors' chairman Ben Adams. The April 22nd board report was approved.

PRESENTATION TO FORMER U. S. ATTORNEY MIKE DUNAVANT

Bill Gibbons and Ben Adams made a presentation to former U. S. Attorney Mike Dunavant for his service on the board. Mr. Dunavant expressed gratitude for having served on the Crime Commission board.

APPROVAL OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

New board member presented:

- MPD Chief "C.J." Davis

The above candidate was presented; a motion was made, seconded, and approved to add Chief Davis to the Crime Commission board.

Chief Davis acknowledged acceptance of her role on the Crime Commission board followed by a presentation on her objectives for staffing and the direction of the Memphis Police Department (MPD).

Chief Davis's presentation focused on interstate shootings (77 incidents) and guns stolen from January 1st through June 30th, 2021. Chief Davis stated that she has increased police presence in the I-240 corridor on the south side and mounted a comprehensive strategy to reduce and prevent reckless driving, aggravated assaults, aggressive driving, road stunts, and violence on the roadways. She also indicated that guns stolen from motor vehicle have increased by 59.2% during the same time frame.

Chief Davis stated her #1 priority in police recruitment and retention is to increase the MPD complement to 2,300 officers by December 2023. She stated that in order to accomplish this, MPD will need to implement the following initiatives:

1. Reignite police recruiting efforts. Goal: 400 recruits in 2022 and 2023
2. Reduce workload demand on MPD. Goal: Innovative approaches towards who and how we answer calls for service
3. Expand PST responsibilities. Goal: 125 PSTs per year, but expand capability beyond non-injury traffic calls
4. Maintain officer attrition at 2013 levels. Goal: Attrition at 125 -130 officers per year

Chief Davis concluded her presentation by stating her next steps, which will include maximizing social media and modifying physical requirements for Memphis police officers.

Sheriff Bonner also spoke on the Sheriff's Department recruitment challenge, stating that it needs 75 additional officers.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021 MILESTONES/OUTCOME INDICATORS

Crime Stats for period January – June 2021

Bill Gibbons stated that major violent crime in the city of Memphis increased 13.1% and 12.1% in Shelby County compared to 2020. Robberies in the city of Memphis decreased 15.5% and 16.4% in Shelby County compared to 2020. Aggravated assaults increased 19.6% and 18.5% in Shelby County compared to 2020. He also stated that reported violent incidents in Memphis involving guns increased 21.6% compared to 2020. The percentage of reported violent offenses in Memphis involving guns in Memphis increased to 71.7% compared to 63.6% in 2020. Mr. Gibbons further explained that one incident can include multiple offenses. On a positive note, overall crime in the city of Memphis is down 3.3% and 1.8% in all of Shelby County compared to 2020.

OBJECTIVE: Focused Deterrence Initiative

District Attorney Amy Weirich discussed the status of the Focused Deterrence Initiative. General Weirich provided the results of the last call-in, (February 2021). She indicated that 99 parolees were invited, 84 attended the call-in, and 83 were on track. "On track" means the individual is substantially complying with the program and has not been caught with a firearm, has not been convicted of a violent crime, and is not otherwise serving a sentence in custody. Dist. Atty. Weirich stated the next call-in will be in September.

OBJECTIVE: Establish a system of assessment and follow up services for non-violent juvenile offenders.

Dorcas Young-Griffin provided the status of the Youth Assessment Center. Ms. Griffin emphasized that the assessment center has been designed to accept low level crimes committed

by youths, not crimes that involve guns. She also emphasized that the goal of the assessment center is for intervention and the diversion of youth from the criminal court system. She said the assessment center will benefit youth and their entire families. The Youth Assessment Center is scheduled to open this fall.

DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW “REFRESHED” SAFE COMMUNITY PLAN

Bill Gibbons presented the executive committee’s recommendation on the parameters/guiding principles for the new safe community plan objectives. These parameters are:

- The Objective is requested and/or supported by the relevant “owner(s)” of the Objective.
- The Objective is evidence-based or evidence-informed.
- The Objective can have a near-term impact on the violent crime rate in particular (appreciably measurable during pendency of the plan).
- The Objective is criminal justice system involved.
- The “owner(s)” of the Objective are agreeable to an independent evaluation of both their processes and outcomes.

The above parameters were presented; a motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the above parameters for the new Safe Community Plan.

UPCOMING UNITY WALK AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

The next “Unity Walk Against Gun Violence” will take place August 28th at 9 a.m. This walk will begin and end at First Baptist-Broad. Bill Gibbons also encouraged board members to utilize and promote the new website: www.PledgetoProtect901.com which supports specific “Walks Against Gun Violence” as they are scheduled.

Kimberly Conley will be working diligently to garner community involvement by utilizing townhall meetings and various community groups.

FINANCIALS

The status of the Crime Commission June 2021 financials and the current financial standing were presented. Ben Adams indicated that the Crime Commission has 2 months (representing the end of the current fiscal year) to raise \$50,000.

Chairman Ben Adams also stated that efforts will be made to increase fundraising with the upcoming fundraiser (September golf tournament). He encouraged board participation and/or solicitation of golf teams. The golf tournament is scheduled for September 27th and will take place at Chickasaw Country Club. Participation levels are as follows:

- Platinum Partner - \$10,000
- Gold Partner - \$7,500
- Silver Partner - \$5,000
- Bronze Partner - \$1,000
- Green Partner - \$ 500

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned...

Presented by:
Sharon (Sam) Walker
Executive Assistant

Memphis Shelby Crime Commission Board Meeting
July 22, 2021

Attendance:

1. Ben Adams
2. Louis "Bo" Allen
3. Melanie Blakeney
4. Floyd Bonner
5. Vinessa Brown
6. Essica Cage
7. John Campbell

8. Thomas Cleves
9. Gerald Darling
10. Chief C. J. Davis
11. John Deberry
12. Greg Duckett
13. John Dudas
14. Terry Harris
15. Jeffrey Higgs
16. Henry Hooper
17. James Kirkwood
18. Douglas Korneski
19. Stevie Moore
20. Paul Morris
21. Keith Norman
22. Blair Taylor
23. Coleman Thompson
24. Dorcas Young-Griffin
25. Amy Weirich

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

1. Don Crowe
2. Janine Heiner
3. Mike Dunavant
4. John Covington
5. Lea Redmond
6. Gregory Sanders
7. Dennis Manning
8. Artemis Williams
9. Kim Conley
10. Linda Russell
11. Bill Gibbons