



Board of Directors Meeting Report

October 27, 2022

Raleigh Branch Library- meeting room; Austin Peay Hwy.

The Crime Commission Board of Directors meeting was called to order by the board of directors' chair Ben Adams. The July 28, 2022 board report was approved.

ELECTION OF RECOMMENDED NEW BOARD MEMBERS

- Judge Tarik Sugamon (replacing Judge Michael)
- County Commissioner Erika Sugarmon (replacing Commissioner Mills)
- District Attorney Steve Mulroy (replacing D. A. Amy Weirich)
- Bartlett Police Chief Jeff Cox (replacing Mayor Keith McDonald)
- Susan Deason of Youth Villages (replacing Pierce Ledbetter)
- Edward Dobbs (replacing Johnny Moore as Memphis Tomorrow rep.)
- Horace Carter of Raymond James (replacing Ryan Ehrhart)
- Rep. John Gillespie (filling vacancy)

The motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the aforementioned as new Crime Commission board members.

ELECTION OF THE NEW RECOMMENDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, OFFICERS, AND SAFE COMMUNITY PLAN CHAIR

- Ben Adams
- Bo Allen
- Vinessa Brown
- Sheriff Floyd Bonner
- Jeffrey Higgs
- John Dudas
- Terry Harris

- Blair Taylor
- Joe Saab
- Horace Carter
 - **Officers**
 - Ben Adams – Chairman
 - Bill Gibbons – President
 - Vinessa Brown – Secretary
 - Bo Allen – Treasurer
 - Sheriff Floyd Bonner – Safe Community Plan Chair

The motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the aforementioned as the new executive committee, officers, and Safe Community Plan chair.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET FOR FY 22-23

Bill Gibbons stated that the Crime Commission has a surplus in revenue providing some cushion in finances. However, there has been a reduction in expenditures due to Linda Russell and Bill Gibbons becoming part-time staff (at least on paper). Mr. Gibbons further stated that a cost of living raise was given to the staff.

REPORT ON PLAN AND ACTION STEP OUTCOMES

Mr. Gibbons presented the available key plan outcome figures to the board covering the period from January through September 2022:

- Reported major violent crime, January – September, decreased by 6.1% in 2022 compared to 2021 in Memphis; in all of Shelby County, major violent crime also decreased by 6.2% compared to 2021.
- Reported major property crime, January – September, compared to 2021 in Memphis increased 21.6% and increased 18.6% in all of Shelby County.

- Reported domestic violence, January – September, in the City of Memphis decreased by 6.5% in 2021 and decreased in all of Shelby County by 8.8%.
- Overall crime, January – September, in Memphis increased by 10.3% and increased by 8.7% in all of Shelby County compared to 2021.

DISCUSSION ON INTENSIVE SUPERVISION AND APPROPRIATE TREATMENT FOR SERIOUS JUVENILE OFFENDERS (ACTION STEP 9)

Susan Deason stated that Youth Villages hopes to partner with the City of Memphis (including the Memphis Police Department), Juvenile Court, and related criminal justice partners to collaborate with juveniles that are considered the “worse of the worse” in developing prevention strategies. Ms. Deason indicated that Youth Villages will provide five to seven sessions/per week for these at-risk juveniles. Ms. Deason also stated that by providing a life coach and mentor for these youths, their life trajectory can change. Likewise, she stated that additional funding was needed.

Henry Hooper, Jeffrey Higgs, and Coleman Thompson stressed that partnerships with other organizations are also needed. Mr. Hooper also expressed a need for more parental responsibility and penalties for their non-action.

REPORT ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STAFFING (ACTION STEP 10)

Chief C. J. Davis stated that the Memphis Police Department (MPD) is currently working on its attrition. MPD will continue its recruiting classes and branding strategies. Chief Davis also stated that the department has added bonuses and that officers are now able to take their service cars home. MPD recently had an expo targeting specific groups and has managed to keep its attrition rate under 7%.

Chief Floyd Bonner stated that the Shelby County Sheriff’s Department has now lowered the age of recruits to 18 for jobs that can be done unarmed.

STUDY FOR SHERIFF BONNER ON DRIVERS OF VIOLENCE

Bill Gibbons indicated that the study done on the drivers of violence had the following results of felons continuing their criminal activity indicating felons had:

- A lack of role models
- Easy access to guns
- Mental health challenges
- Difficulty in getting on the right track

The full study is on the Public Safety Institute website at www.memphis.edu/psi.

UPCOMING FORUM ON JUVENILE CRIME

Bill Gibbons stated that a forum on juvenile crime will take place on the same day as the St. Jude marathon. However, no conflict was observed. The forum will be held at New Salem Baptist Church from 10:30-noon on December 3. (Note: the forum was later changed to January 7th.)

FINANCIALS

Ben Adams stated that the golf tournament fundraiser held on October 17, 2022, at the Ridgeway Country Club, was successful. However, he indicated that he would be able to report the monetary results of the golf tournament at the next board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned...

Presented by:
Sharon (Sam) Walker
Executive Assistant

**Memphis Shelby Crime Commission Board Meeting
October 27, 2022**

Attendance:

- 1. Ben Adams**
- 2. Louis "Bo" Allen**
- 3. Sheriff Floyd Bonner**
- 4. Vinessa Brown**
- 5. Horace Carter**
- 6. Chief Jeff Cox**
- 7. Chief C. J. Davis**
- 8. Susan Deason**
- 9. Edward Dobbs**
- 10. John Dudas**
- 11. John Gillespie**
- 12. Mayor Lee Harris**
- 13. Terry Harris**
- 14. Jeffrey Higgs**
- 15. Henry Hooper**
- 16. James Kirkwood**
- 17. Douglas Korneski**
- 18. Rhonda Logan**
- 19. Paul Morris**
- 20. Steve Mulroy**
- 21. Mayor Mike Palazzolo**
- 22. Joseph Saab**
- 23. Stacey Sherley-Muhammad**
- 24. David Slott**
- 25. Mayor Jim Strickland**
- 26. Erika Sugarmon**
- 27. Tarik Sugarmon**
- 28. Blair Taylor**
- 29. Coleman Thompson**
- 30. Daniel Weddle**

31.Craig Weiss

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

- 1. Mike Fisher**
- 2. Joe Gurley**
- 3. Kevin Ritz**
- 4. Eric Leppann**
- 5. J Leatherwood**
- 6. Jimmie Johnson**
- 7. Ethele Hilliard**
- 8. Lora Fowler, ADA**
- 9. Sandy Bromley**
- 10.Susan Deason**
- 11.Kimberly Conley**
- 12.Bill Gibbons**
- 13.Mishel Vite**