



Board of Directors Meeting Report
June 27, 2024 (Special Called Board Meeting)
Conference Rm: #2: 3:30 p.m.

Board of Directors chair Ben Adams called the June 27th Board meeting to order. Chairman Adams stated that the reason for the “Special Called” meeting was to report on strategies that regular meetings have not provided time for. The April 25th board report was approved.

REPORT ON CRIME COMMISSION LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

Bill Gibbons thanked those board members who attended the legislative briefing. Mr. Gibbons indicated that the session proved to be much needed and well received.

The “Walk Against Gun Violence” took place in Orange Mound with a great deal of collaborative support, Memphis Allies, Moms Demand Action, Memphis BLOC Squad, and Freedom from Unnecessary Negatives to name a few. Bill Gibbons gave a “thank you” to the Memphis Police Department (MPD) for their invaluable assistance on this walk and on previous walks. MPD has routinely selected the specific routes and provided traffic control along the routes.

Bill Gibbons stated the next Crime Commission organized event scheduled will be the golf tournament on September 9.th He stated that the Crime Commission will also be involved in National Night Out events on August 6th. Mr. Gibbons informed the Board that Kimberly Conley is available to receive any information on any significant National Night Out events that the Crime Commission can assist with.

APPROVAL OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

Chairman Adams introduced Andy Bland of Sylvamo as a potential Crime Commission board member for vote.

The motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept Andy Bland to The Crime Commission Board of Directors.

Chairman Adams recognized Tom Cleves' retirement from Sylvamo and his influence in securing Sylvamo and International Paper as major Crime Commission financial contributors.

BRIEFING ON MPD CRIME STATS

Chief Joe Oakley indicated that all nine precincts have shown a reduction in crime by 17.5% overall year to date. Reported auto thefts are down about 30% year to date. Reported violent crimes have also decreased from 2023 year to date in every major category.

Chief Oakley stated the reduction in crime has been through joint efforts from the MPD precincts, MPD's Code Zero Initiative, the Sheriff's Department, and the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

Chief Oakley also stated that crime statistics are provided to the media; however, this news is not generally covered by the media. Rather, areas in Memphis where crime statistics excel are emphasized, such as Hickory Hill, Whitehaven, and Ridgeway.

Chief Oakley provided information on ring cameras and cameras in the city that can be registered and used by MPD to reduce crime. He also stated that camera sharing can provide better utilization of police manpower.

UPDATE ON JUVENILE COURT DATA

Bill Gibbons updated the board on juvenile court data, with a disclaimer that the data is not all inclusive of crimes committed by juveniles, but rather includes only actual cases and charges made against juveniles.

Mr. Gibbons presented the top ten categories of delinquent offenses with the highest number of youth offenses from January – March of 2024. Theft of property (vehicles), aggravated assaults and evading arrest were the top three offenses. The overall delinquency recidivism rate was 38.9%, up 3.7% compared to the first quarter of 2023.

The categories of offenses with the highest number of serious violent delinquent offenses/charges were carjacking, aggravated robbery, and aggravated assault.

Chairman Adams also stressed that the numbers shown are not all the actual incidents. Only those individuals caught and appearing in court and charged are reflected in the numbers.

BEHAVIORAL/MENTAL HEALTH IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Bill Gibbons stated that behavioral/mental health has been introduced into the Safe Community Action Plan as a community need. Mr. Gibbons stated that Sandy Bromley has taken the lead in identifying those points in the criminal justice system where someone could need mental health services, where the gaps in the system are, and how those gaps can be filled with services.

Sandy Bromley emphasized that she collaborates with a team and presented Daniel Malone to speak. Mr. Malone provided information on crisis lines and how the co-response teams work. He indicated that someone in mental health crisis has two options:

- Dial 988, which allows calls to 911 to focus on physical emergencies. The Memphis Crisis Center and Alliance Healthcare Services have capacity to accept more 988 calls.
- Dial 911 with the need to add “mental health” to fire, medical and police responses.

Ms. Bromley stated that officers would have access to more information when taking persons to the Crisis Center. They would be able to determine who is or is

not acceptable for the center to receive. She stated that officers need and should have access to the Shelby County General Sessions Court misdemeanor database. This will assist officers in knowing if a situation has escalated.

SAFEWAYS

Joe Gurley reported on the status of SafeWays. Mr. Gurley stated that from SafeWays' inception in 2013 and through the end of March 2023, fully compliant SafeWays-certified apartment properties saw CPTED offenses decrease by more than twice as much as crime decreased in the same period for non-certified properties. CPTED stands for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. CPTED addresses how a property appears, including shrubbery, lighting, signs, and safety.

Currently, there are 25 SafeWays certified properties. This represents 2,373 units. Mr. Gurley indicated the properties that are in the SafeWays program are located all over the city. Mr. Gurley stated that SafeWays is working on properties outside of Shelby County. These properties are in Dickson, Nashville, and Murfreesboro, TN and Walls, MS.

18 SafeWays apartment properties receive the following services:

- Weekly calls for service notifications.
- Weekly police report and arrest notifications;
- Monthly statistical reporting on crime;
- A full confidential written site assessment;
- Quarterly site visits with written reports;
- Quarterly night visits with written reports;
- Assistance with Neighborhood Watch programs; and
- Other crime prevention and suppression support.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ben Adams indicated that a Crime Commission budget item requires revisiting. Chairman Adams stated that the Crime Commission budgeted the Stones River

Group lobbying firm for nine months, which will expire at the end of June. He further indicated that the Crime Commission needs to continue its services for this fiscal year. However, this will be an additional \$30,000 expense not budgeted. Chairman Adams indicated that this expense can be covered by the current Crime Commission financials.

The motion was made, seconded, and approved for the additional budget expense for this fiscal year for the Stones River Group.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned...

Presented by:

Sharon (Sam) Walker

Executive Assistant

Memphis Shelby Crime Commission Board Meeting

June 27, 2024

Attendance:

1. Ben Adams
2. Sheriff Floyd Bonner
3. April Buckner
4. Charlie Caswell
5. Tom Cleves
6. Tom Cowens
7. Chief Jeff Cox
8. Susan Deason
9. John Dudas
10. Terry Harris
11. Carolyn Jackson
12. James Kirkwood
13. Stevie Moore
14. Paul Morris
15. Steve Mulroy
16. Mayor Mike Palazzolo

17. Joseph Saab
18. Stacey Sherley-Muhammad
19. Blair Taylor
20. Coleman Thompson
21. Paul Young
22. Dorcas Young Griffin
23. Daniel Weddle
24. Craig Weiss
25. Ethel Hilliard
26. Amaia Iratzoqui
27. Joe Oakley
28. Ted Townsend
29. Sandy Bromley
30. Dan Malone
31. Joe Gurley
32. Dorcas Young Griffin
- 33. Paul Young**

DRAFT