

Meeting: Community Leadership Council on Gun Violence Meeting

Date: Friday, October 23, 2014, 3:00 p.m.

Location: Early Learning Coalition Meeting Facility

In attendance: Chief DeLeo, Edward Clark, Reggie Bouthillier, Wilson Barnes, Nancy Daniels, Steve Harrelson, Rudy Ferguson, Buck Chambers, Annie Harris, Heather Mitchell, Gloria Pugh, Rick Flagg, Eva Mannings, Jack Campbell, Akhenaton “AK” Thomas, and the following Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department: Christopher Edwards, Edward Young Jr., Dan Lucas, Cheri Bryant

Absent: Pam Hightower, Pam Marsh

Chief DeLeo called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m.

Mr. AK Thomas was welcomed to the Leadership Council by Chief DeLeo. Mr. Thomas can be reached at 891-8181 or Akhenaton.Thomas@talgov.com.

Assessment/Strategic Planning Update

The committee and Tallahassee-Leon Planning Department worked together to produce a series of maps that indicated the statistics and the locations of firearm incidents that occurred around the city. Mr. Young briefly explained the maps to the Leadership Council.

Based on the mapped data, Ms. Mitchell made a motion the Leadership Council focus on the Greater Frenchtown community to include Griffin Heights and South City, and be prepared to discuss ideas of how to move forward at the next Leadership Council meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Campbell. Motion was accepted by Leadership Council.

Mr. Edwards gave a brief presentation outlining how and why the Southside of Tallahassee was chosen as a potential Promise Zone site eligible to receive federal assistance to address multiple social issues.

Neighborhood and Faith Based Organizations Update:

The committee has attended Neighborhood Association Meetings.

The goal is to cross clergy lines and create partnerships with churches that are made up of different races. These partnerships will be crucial in reaching the individuals responsible for the incidents and relaying important information to the community.

Education and Youth Update:

The committee did not meet.

Criminal Justice and Re-Entry Update:

The committee did not meet.

Ms. Daniels shared two programs, the Gadsden Re-Entry system and the jail program, LIFT, that may be worth looking in to as they have proven to be successful in addressing re-entry and lessening the recidivism rates.

Chief DeLeo received information that over the next year approximately 1,200 people will be released in our district.

Communications Update:

The committee is working on a brand and media campaign that will build awareness regarding gun violence. The campaign will consist of billboards, signs on city buses, PSAs, posters, and postcards. The committee will be reaching out to FSU and FAMU School of Communication and Graphic Design for assistance.

Chief DeLeo will fund the initial needs with forfeiture funds, but would like for each of the committees to evaluate what your needs may be so that a request for assistance can be made to the City Manager and City Commission.

It was suggested that the Leadership Council include a representative from Probation and Parole to aid the Re-Entry and Communication committees to assist individuals just coming out of prison system.

Reminders:

The next meeting will be on November 13, 2014, at 3 p.m. in the Blue Collar Banquet Hall located at 811 W Brevard St.

Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.