



**York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office  
Citizens' Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 9, 2023**



**Meeting Minutes Approval by Chair/Committee: Approved**

**PRESENT:** Amy Brown, Toni Chavis (zoom), Shana Gist, Beth Hoer, Jenny Joyner,

**CHAIR:** D'Shawn Wright

**YPSO:** Major Thomas West

**SECRETARY:** Linda Hutchinson

**BYLAWS & MEMBERSHIP:** David Gorwitz (not in attendance)

**ABSENT:** Rob Carpenter, David Gorwitz, Kristen Nelson, Eileen O'Brien, Krystyn Reid, Stephen Roane, Annette Robinson, Tara Taylor

**Members submitting resignations:** Melanie Bond-Artis, Amanda Jensen

**Guests:** George Bozeman

**AGENDA TOPICS**

**1. Call to Order – D'Shawn Wright** called the meeting to order at 9:015am.

**2. Chair Updates by D'Shawn Wright**

**Back to School Events:**

a.) D'Shawn Wright and Jenny Joyner participated in the Salvation Army back to school event in Hampton on August 26 which provided back to school supplies to 530 children and gave 83 free haircuts to children on the Peninsula. Langley Kennel Club brought dogs which was a highlight of the event. Some issues surrounding that event include a pre-registration requirement, thus, consideration is being given to providing extra supplies for non-registered children for future events. Additionally, Newport News requires clear book bags.

b.) York County Schools and the YPSO provided school supplies for children at a back to school event on August 26 in the Yorktown Square Apartments/Rivermeade Ct. area serving 207 children and providing 21 haircuts. Several certified therapy dogs participated in the event. The YPSO is strongly considering combining future events such as this one at Yorktown Sq/Rivermeade with similar and separate events at Woods at Yorktown Apartments.

D'Shawn Wright and Major West discussed a recent incident in Gloucester in which an organization called the Bugaloo Boys openly carried weapons to a school board event. Within the past month fully armed members of that organization also surrounded an unoccupied Gloucester school. Sheriff Montgomery assured the county that a similar incident would not occur in York County because these people would be arrested in compliance with Virginia State law.

York County Social Services has identified approximately 160 county seniors who live alone and need assistance. Recommendations for assisting these seniors and those participating in organizations providing assistance include: George Bozeman and the Check on Your Buddy Program, Linda Hutchinson and a former Caring Neighbors program by Peninsula Agency on Aging. George Bozeman will provide names of churches and Jenny Joyner will provide names of organizations desiring to provide assistance. Beth Hoer suggested contacting hospitals for information on community needs. Maj. West expressed that the YPSO is discussing establishing an Adopt a Senior Program. Maj. West will talk to the social services director to obtain the names of those 160 seniors. Linda Hutchinson volunteered to coordinate these services.

### **3. YPSO Updates by Major West**

With York County schools opening a major problem is traffic control since parents drive their children rather than having them take school buses.

Yorktown Beach is experiencing increased disruptive activity, including erratic driving, by young people who stay beyond curfew. The Board of Supervisors will establish a uniform closing time of midnight for all parking lots rather than the current practice of variable parking times. Deputies will continue to patrol the areas.

The YPSO is organizing school personnel to understand and reinforce with children and parents the dangers and consequences of texted threats vs. spoken threats.

Although use of force by the YPSO is an uncommon practice, it is YPSO policy to review every use of force by multiple means including requiring written reports, reviewing body cams and conducting deputy interviews. The goal is not to use force.

### **4. Guest – George Bozeman of New Genesis New Beginnings**

Mr. Bozeman's life work is to assist communities in need. He has worked with law enforcement for over 20 years in that work. To instigate community assistance, communities need to reach out to the organizations to indicate their sincere needs. The Lackey area does that; consequently, Mr. Bozeman is exploring avenues to assist that community, including movie nights with CAC members available to talk with residents and a collaboration with D'Shawn Wright to organize a fitness program. Additional ideas include seasonal school supply events, a fall gala, an Angel Tree, a January Thank You Gala and the regularly scheduled August National Night Out to include city leaders to answer questions. Mr. Bozeman emphasized the importance of providing male and female role models within the

community, and Linda Hutchinson suggested organizing leadership within the community.

Note: Darrien Hines was unable to attend to speak on Restoration.

5. **Adjournment:** D'Shawn Wright adjourned the meeting at 10:30am. The next CAC meeting will be Saturday, October 14, 2023 from 9am-10am.