



**York-Poquoson Sheriff's Office
Citizens' Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2023**



Meeting Minutes Approval by Chair/Committee: Approved

Present: Rob Carpenter, David Gorwitz, Beth Hoer, Linda Hutchinson, Kristen Nelson, Kristen Reid, Stephen Roane, Annette Robinson (Zoom)

CHAIR: D'Shawn Wright

YPSO: Sheriff Ron Montgomery, Major Thomas West, Lt. Damon Radcliffe

SECRETARY: Linda Hutchinson

BYLAWS & MEMBERSHIP: David Gorwitz

ABSENT: Amy Brown, Toni Chavis, Shana Gist, Jenny Joyner, Eileen O'Brien, Tara Taylor, D'Shawn Wright

AGENDA TOPICS

1. **Call to Order** – Sheriff Ron Montgomery called the meeting to order at 6:04pm. Chair D'Shawn Wright was unable to attend.

2. **YPSO Updates – Sheriff Ron Montgomery**

York Country School Division: Over the past several months the York County School Division has experienced abuse of special needs students by teachers. The Sheriff is partnering with Nicole Miller of the Autism Society to examine and address this situation. Under consideration is training of educators.

The YPSO is working to install radar in school zones as has been successful in other communities. The average number of speeders in school zones is currently 921 vehicles per day. Installing radar would not be at a cost to the taxpayers and would positively affect the safety of our school communities. The YPSO will initiate an ad campaign to bring awareness of this situation to the community.

YPSO: Since it is the year for real estate assessment, the YPSO will be requesting additional funds in order to bring in ten new people. To be in compliance with the norm of one law enforcement officer per 1000 people, the YPSO should have 126 deputies; yet, it has 100 deputies. With the addition of multiple housing developments, the department is falling further behind rather than reaching equity. Since the hiring of additional deputies would enhance law enforcement and, therefore, increase arrests, the court system would also be affected. Thus, the additional amount requested would need to be 10 million dollars.

Installing license plate cameras on YPSO vehicles has been very successful in identifying stolen vehicles.

Lt. Damon Radcliffe was acknowledged for graduating from the Virginia Police Chiefs Foundation Professional Executive Leadership School. Additionally, he was thanked for his 15 years of service on the YPSO.

Shop with a Cop is scheduled for December 9 beginning at 7am until approximately 11am. The goal is for 50 deputies to participate with the children. Civilian volunteers are needed to work behind the scenes, registering children, bagging purchased items, etc. Several members expressed interest in assisting, including our speaker George Bozeman who volunteered himself and other members of his Parkinson's Support Group.

A food drive will be conducted in partnership with the York County Chamber of Commerce.

The YPSO is still waiting for the results of the examination by the Norfolk Medical Examiner of the baby who passed away several months ago.

3. Speaker: George Bozeman – New Genesis New Beginnings

Mr. Bozeman spoke about the many community service events undertaken by his organization, emphasizing that 2023 has been one of the busiest years for New Genesis New Beginnings. He and NGNB work in partnership with other organizations to feed the hungry. They are now also providing meals to residents of Four Oaks, a home for homeless and retired individuals. The partners of NGNB include the YMCA and Faith Community Church. They have recently been asked to also provide Thanksgiving meals for active duty military without family in the area. Mr. Bozeman is partnering with Tara from visiting Angels to minister to the elderly, a service opportunity being explored with the CAC.

Mr. Bozeman is currently organizing service events for Christmas and the coming year. He will also focus on conducting bi-monthly events in the Lackey community that will include a Book Bag Drive, Christmas in Lackey, and a Roundtable Discussion of York County services and opportunities. One of those discussions, potentially in February of 2024, will focus on a discussion of the YPSO and the CAC. We will explore this opportunity at the January meeting.

Hampton Delegate A.C. Cordoza is collaborating with Mr. Bozeman to examine laws that affect those with chronic diseases. Additionally, a new Parkinson's Support Group will include those with other chronic diseases.

Mr. Bozeman is anticipating stepping away from administrative and organizational duties in favor of his children who will incorporate ideas that appeal to a younger audience.

4. Membership - David Gorwitz

Thanks to Beth Hoer for initiating texting reminders to CAC members on the Friday prior to committee meetings.

Note: Mr. Gorwitz requested phones numbers be sent to him or Beth if members did not receive the text sent on Friday November 17.

The January meeting is scheduled for January 13 in order to enable our Chairman D'Shawn Wright to attend. Newly accepted members attend the CAC meeting for the first time in January.

Applications are available online for the two open slots for CAC membership. Some applications have already been received.

5. Adjournment— Sheriff Ron Montgomery adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.