

# Albemarle County Police Department

## Community Advisory Committee

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

09:00 am

### **Committee Members Present:**

Richard Hewitt, Maureen Deane, John Springett, Brian Williams, Tanishka Cruz, and Bea LaPisto-Kirtley

### **Other Present:**

Colonel Sean Reeves, Chief of Police  
Anne Mallek, White Hall Supervisor  
Kaki Dimock, DSS Mental Health Unit  
Steven Hitchcock, DSS HARTS Program  
Abbey Stumpf, Communications & Public Engagement Manager  
Isabel Cleary, NBC29 News

The meeting was called to order at 09:05 am; Committee welcomed Anne Mallek, Kaki Dimock, Steven Hitchcock, and Abbey Stumpf.

Kaki speaks about the Human Services Response Team and introduces Steven Hitchcock.

Richard Hewitt asked for a motion to approve the January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting minutes, and John Springett asked for an amendment of page 2. John Hewitt be corrected to Richard Hewitt.

### **Matter from the Public:**

We would like to remind everyone that the best way for public comment or to reach the Chief of Police is to use the following email address [askACPD@albemarle.org](mailto:askACPD@albemarle.org), which is located on the Citizens Advisory Committee website and the Police Department's website at [www.albemarle.org](http://www.albemarle.org). Additionally, they can call direct to the Albemarle County Police Department, and they will be directed to the Administrative Assistant who can further assist them.

\*Officer-involved shooting on February 28, 2023, at the Red Roof Inn in Charlottesville.

Colonel Reeves explains that the incident is still under investigation, and he is limited to the information that can be released.

The Virginia State Police is the lead on this investigation.

A man wanted on a variety of warrants was located at the Red Rood Inn by an Albemarle Detective. The detective called the city to make them aware of the man's location and outstanding paperwork. Officers arrived on the scene and realized the man was armed. This was a public location with citizens in possible danger on foot and in vehicles. The man pointed if firearm at members of our tactical team, and they fired back. We are thankful there was no officer or civilian loss of life. This is still a tragedy, and we never want an outcome with any loss of life.

Richard Hewitt- What was the call duration of time before the gunfire transpired?

Colonel Reeves-It was approximately 2 hours of negotiations

Bea LaPisto-Kirtley- States she is glad there were no officers or civilians harmed

Brian Williams- Voices his support for the officers involved

Colonel Reeves- Goes over officer-involved shootings protocol

-Take care of our officer

Administrative Leave

-Psychological Evaluation

-Restrictive Duty

All Cleared

-Released to full duty

### **New Business:**

\*Recent Gun Violence in the Community

Richard Hewitt- Gave out a copy of the Daily Progress on an article "Police arrest 13-year-old with a gun in Albemarle County" article.

Colonel Reeves- This alternative school within our jurisdiction requested to stay anonymous for the safety of their students and staff. The juvenile was located outside the facility hiding from the police. This school accepts students from local jurisdictions that fund the enrollment fees for their students.

Richard Hewitt-Where does the county sit with gun violence? How much of this gun violence by these gang members spill over into the county? Is the city or county in charge of intel?

Colonel Reeves continues- Last year, gang violence was in the southwest area of Albemarle and now extends to the northwest. This is predominantly made up of juveniles and led by adults using the juveniles to commit these crimes. There has been an increase in vehicle larcenies, vehicle break-ins, shots fired, and one homicide involving these juveniles to date. Our department works closely with Chief Kochis and his department.

Colonel Reeves, Chief Longo, and Chief Kochis have worked together to put together a Regional CompStat. This gives all attendees a chance to share information and intelligence. The different agency analysts are present to show heat mapping, which pinpoints the highest and increased criminal activity in the jurisdiction, and pertinent statistics.

The police play a certain role; we are reaching out to the community and taking a people approach that doesn't revolve around criminal activity, whether we take time after a call to talk to our citizens or play a couple of rounds of basketball with the kids in the neighborhood. We want our community to know we are here for them. We have several events the community can attend and interact with our department in a positive setting. Coffee with Cops, Simpson Park, National Night Out, Bike Rodeo, Putt Putt with Police, Community Days, Halloween Trunk or Treat, and more. There are talks of starting up the School Resource Officer position in our schools.

#### **SROs-School Resource Officers:**

When the school board decided to pull the SROs from the schools these positions were reallocated to our mental health Unit and other positions throughout the department that were understaffed.

With the support of Albemarle School Board Superintendent Dr. Matt Haas. Colonel Reeves and Trevor Henry meet with School Board members two on two. All but two members took advantage of asking questions, stating concerns, and getting answers straight from the Chief of police.

The county school budget has a spot for one SRO for now. This position will be based on the Albemarle High School campus. Due to new DCJS regulations, this officer will attend a new SRO training course.

We understand this is one officer for 11 schools. With the help of the community leaders like the Boys & Girls Club, church programs, Sin Barreras, DSS, the school faculty, and the student's parents we hope to reach as many students as possible and help them and guide them to a positive future.

#### **(DSS/Mental Health Unit) collaboration with public safety:**

3 years ago, Col. Reeves as Major and Chief Eggleston began discussions on how to respond to mental health calls.

For the past year Col. Reeves, Chief Eggleston, and DSS (Kaki Dimock and Stephen Hitchcock) have been working together on the HARTS program (Human Services Alternative Response Team).

This is a community-based program with a team that focuses on long-term care that extends beyond the initial contact of the citizen in crisis. We want to build trust within the community and with one another.

It will need time to get up and running but we need to make sure it is done right so we can make sure our citizens are able to get the care they need.

Richard Hewitt-Time now 10:09. Thanked Kaki and Stephen for attending the meeting.

John Springett made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Brian Williams 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:09.