

Ad Hoc UFPD Campus Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 23, 2011 **Time:** 9:03 AM to 10:13 AM (1 hour 10 minutes)

Facilitated by: Chief Linda J. Stump, Director, University of Florida Police Department
UFPD Campus Advisory Committee Member

Location: University of Florida Police Department,
UFPD Community Services Classroom

Members Present: Linda J. Stump
Scott Nygren
Cathy Martyniak
Severin Walstad
Christina Bonarrigo
Ben Meyers
Mary Ann Ferguson
Harold Jackson

Other Attendees: Kim Czaplewski David Wasserman
Brad Barber Laurie Mackie
Janine Sikes Amy Hass
Darren Baxley Bart Knowles
Mitchal J. Welsh Kelly Jackson

Old Business

Chief Linda Stump began the meeting at 9:03 AM. She asked the committee members, all of which were present, if they had reviewed the minutes that was emailed to them and if they were prepared to approve the meeting minutes as printed from July 12, 2011. There were no objections and the minutes were approved as printed by all members.

Chief Stump distributed Training Memorandum #11-092 to the members and advised them that this was recently emailed to them but wanted to provide it to them, as well to personally invite them to the training if they are available to do so.

New Business

Chief Stump said that “When extra-ordinary things happen, (she) felt compelled to recognize it and discuss them”. She then summarized a CPR incident that occurred on the university campus involving two students, three UFPD officers and a campus administrator’s husband. Chief Stump read aloud an email that she received from Dean Cammy Abernathy, College of Engineering, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Florida. The email was in support of and in gratitude of the CPR efforts that the officers and students gave her husband at the Reitz Union. He had experienced “a form of sudden death due to blocked coronary arteries”. A copy of the email is attached as part of this official record. Chief Stump mentioned that she invited Dean Abernathy to the meeting but she was unable to attend due to prior commitments but sent the email to be read in her absence. Chief Stump presented the two students, David Wasserman and Laurie Mackie with a University of Florida Challenge coin as a token of appreciation and acknowledgement of their good deed. She also introduced the three officers that were involved, Officer Daymon Kizzar, Officer Tim Peck and Officer Kenneth Motes and thanked them also for their quick response and assistance in the life saving attempt. She advised that the patient is doing very well and is recuperating as a direct result of the CPR given on scene. It was also mentioned

that Officer Peck did have to perform mouth to mouth on the subject. She asked the committee and other attendees to join her in acknowledging them and thanking them for their efforts. Everyone clapped in confirmation. Chief Stump mentioned the use of the AED and the role it played in this incident, as well and mentioned that every squad car. Sgt. Walt Hamby brought one for display purposes.

Ben Meyers complimented Mr. Wasserman and Miss Mackie for representing the student body so well and thanked them for their efforts.

Cathy Martyniak mentioned that she thought all buildings on campus should have an AED, and that training should be given on how to use them. Chief Stump agreed and stated that several buildings do in fact have them and she too, would like to see every building have one. She also went on to say that AED's are easier and quicker to use now compared to when you had to wait for them to power up and the stigma of knowing you were about to shock someone. The AED's today do all of the thinking and administering of the shock itself. She thought more people would be more apt to use them during an incident due to that alone. Severin Walstad also agreed that they were easier to use and that not a lot of any training would be needed. Ms. Martyniak asked why not in high population buildings like the libraries? Chief Stump agreed and said "Why not. Why not in every building? Look what happened in a matter of minutes in the incident I described earlier."

Dr. Scott Nygren motioned for the committee to support a resolution to add AED's in every building; all committee members verbally agreed and motion was seconded by everyone in unison. Chief Stump thanked the group for supporting such a cause and that was not her reason for giving the details of the incident, but was pleased that the committee felt it important enough to act.

The next agenda item up for discussion was in regards to the recent non-renewal of Officer Keith Smith's employment contract. Chief Stump began by explaining that she was in a difficult position as the Chair of this committee and also being the Chief of Police of the University of Florida Police Department. She stated that she is obligated to carry out President Machen's charge to the committee (a copy of which was distributed to the committee members for them to review). She went on to explain that she recognizes her role as both the Chair and the employer in this situation and that for the sake of respecting all parties involved, upholding the integrity of the Human Resource process(es) and avoiding any conflict of interest she would like to recuse herself from this discussion as it continues, as the chair. She encouraged the committee to carry on with the discussion of the incident if so needed, as she observed.

Dr. Nygren expressed his approval of her recusal and stated that he admired the way this incident as been handled and is being handled by Chief Stump, the University Police Department and the Office of Human Resources. He too expressed the importance of due process for all involved. He asked the committee if they had any questions, concerns or comments about the non-renewal of Officer Smith.

Mr. Walstad spoke and mentioned some students he talked with were concerned about the length of time it took for this decision to be made in light of the officer's past actions and why was his contract not renewed prior to this recent incident involving Officer Smith? Dr. Nygren expressed his understanding of the student's concern regarding why it took so long, but he also reaffirmed the need for due process and that the employee's rights cannot be ignored. Ben Meyers agreed that due process needed to be respected by everyone including the student body. Dr. Nygren motioned for the discussion on this incident be closed if no other comments, questions or information; the group

seconded it and he asked Chief Stump to re-enter the discussion as the meeting progressed to the next agenda item.

Chief Stump introduced Captain Bart Knowles of the University Police Department and stated that he has really stepped up the SCOPE initiative as a direct response to the concerns of the committee from the July 12th meeting regarding and more specifically to the comment Dr. Nygren had at the last meeting, “we need to create a culture of safety and learning, not one of fear “.

Mr. Walstad asked who the SCOPE officer was assigned to the Lakeside Complex. Capt. Knowles said Officer Brad Roberts. Mr. Walstad went on to say that Officer Roberts was doing an awesome job and that he has heard residents talk about him and how happy they are with him and what he is doing with their complex. Capt. Knowles thanked Mr. Walstad for sharing that information and that that is the goal of this program. Capt. Knowles continued speaking while also showing a PowerPoint presentation.

The first couple of slides had photos of the SCOPE boards that were being created in hopes of having one in each residence hall. These SCOPE boards would have information about the SCOPE officer assigned to that area and his/her contact information, as well as the SCOPE definition, Mission, and Goals of the program. Capt. Knowles expressed how important communication is between students and law enforcement. He also went on to say that he understood that it would be an evolving process due to the ever changing population and campus and that students desire to know what is going on on campus and UFPD’s job was to figure out how to make that relationship better and the flow of information timely and quickly.

Chief Stump mentioned that just recently, a perfect example of how the communication and the relationship between law enforcement and students worked well and positively for all involved. She deferred to Major Brad Barber, University Police Department for the details. Major Barber continued saying that Officer Brad Roberts conducted a presentation at and with the Lakeside Residential Complex on “Drinking and Driving” and the importance of designating a driver for the evening when you go out. A few nights later, an UFPD officer pulled a vehicle over for driving with no headlights and according to the video from the patrol vehicle the driver apologized and mentioned that she was trying to get her friends home safely because they had been out drinking and she was the designated driver. She went on to tell the officer that an Officer gave a presentation and he spoke about the importance of driver designation, and she was the designated driver. She was asked who gave the presentation and she said Officer Roberts. The officer said on video that he felt that he didn’t want to punish her for doing the right thing, and that he would elect to give her a warning and praise her and her friends for doing the responsible thing. Major Barber went on to say that this officer chose to educate this car of students instead of enforce driving laws due to the minor infraction. Capt. Knowles stated that he hopes that the SCOPE program would spread the law enforcement message and do it more effectively.

Capt. Knowles continued saying that approximately 15 SCOPE events were planned during the month of August/September. Events such as Bike Registration, Alcohol Awareness, DUI, Underage Drinking and some off-campus events. Chief Stump confirmed that all officers are involved in this program and not just the officers that are good at it; therefore, the officers have to think and interact outside of their comfort zones. Capt. Knowles also stated that the officers are embracing it and starting to have some fun with the program and imaginative ways to present and interact with the residents. He also mentioned that the Housing Office has been very cooperative and quite willing to provide the message boards for the resident halls to establish the SCOPE boards.

Chief Stump mentioned that the resident halls were a huge avenue to build relationships with students, as another recent example is of two students recognizing that another student seemed to be in some kind of distress near their resident hall; the two students searched for their SCOPE officer to get help for that student. Chief Stump was happy to know that the officer was sought out by students to help a fellow student. She stated that this is evidence that this program is working and that the positive relationships will create more trust and more ease to report any suspicious activity to UFPD. She also mentioned that this program is being set up for Fraternities and Sororities, as well. Sgt. Kristy Maculan, University Police Department, Community Services Division is coordinating the effort for the Sororities and some photos of her at a function was shown on the PowerPoint presentation.

Dr. Nygren stated that he really liked what was being said and that two sides of the issue are being addressed and those are public relations and officer judgment at the point of contact with the student, that both were really important to building that trust that is very much needed to have the open and honest communication. Communication is the key. He also stated that all resources and methods needed to be utilized and UFPD seems to be moving in that direction. He thanked Chief Stump for sharing the stories with the committee.

Chief Stump stated that the university police department strives to promote the education process of this university and not the heavy-handed law enforcement approach. That UFPD looks for those opportunities to education verses ticket. A slide on game day infractions was referred to as an example as a comparison to other agencies that ticket, UFPD cited less but gave more warnings and took the opportunity to educate instead.

Deputy Chief Baxley advised that the department is continuously brain storming for new ideas regarding SCOPE and the department welcomes all input from the committee, staff, students and Student Government. He too discussed game day or tailgating enforcement efforts that are educationally focused. Chief Stump confirmed that the game day statistics are incredibly good in terms of the focus being on education not enforcement for minor infractions. She also added that more officers have been added to the game day operations as a result of the September 11th Anniversary and only 218 infractions drew law enforcement attention, and they weren't casual offenses, which is low compared to the 90,000 plus people that are on the University campus on game days. She expressed how amazing that number was in relation to the number of officers and people on this campus on one day. Deputy Chief Baxley also noted that there were some elaborate set-ups that occur on game day by spectators and that the police department has done a good job getting most of the rowdy and problematic folks off campus and educating others for other safety related issues for example unsafe electric hookups, unattended deep fryers, cookers, etc. In fact a cooker was on fire during the game because it was left on, no one was around and law enforcement saw it and handled it. This is the type of thing law enforcement does that is behind the scenes that no one sees explained Deputy Chief Baxley. He asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Meyers said that he enjoyed this meeting because it brought to light that the cops are doing things right and that something positive is being created. Chief Stump agreed and said that Student Government and SNAP works really well as a result of the collaborative efforts between the two and that she and other UFPD administrators really do want to know what is wanted and needed in the university community.

Dr. Nygren stated that sometimes the Media reports unfair or bad things, but not the good things that are happening. He then mentions an incident involving a UFPD officer and football player, Officer Sasser

and Dee Finley for example. He asks the committee if they had any comments about the event, coverage and handling of the event. No one replied. Dr. Nygren asked that of Chief Stump and she stated that she agreed that the incident was handled appropriately based on the situation. She also stated that it was disappointing that an officer gets bad media when doing the right thing. The UFPD was comfortable with how it was handled.

Dr. Mary Ann Ferguson asked if there were any discussions of moving the SCOPE program beyond the residence halls and into departments or buildings because so many faculty don't know what to do or who to call when something occurs during class or office hours. Chief Stump talked about the Community Services Division being active in campus activities/events that address faculty and staff; events like new employee orientations have an officer present and a safety presentation is made, tabling at the J.W. Reitz Union, Turlington Plaza and other locations. She also mentioned that she meets with the Deans and/or Department Heads of every college every other summer to introduce herself and if they had any questions or need any information from her or the department. She also advised that the department's Traffic Unit are assigned to buildings that they physically go into and walk around and make themselves seen and known by employees. Not every building has an officer patrolling them but the most popular buildings on campus do. Deputy Chief Baxley mentioned that the campus is so large and UFPD is doing what they can, but to let him or Chief Stump know of any ideas that could be implemented, they welcome any and all feedback. He also mentioned that even the K-9 units are trying out Facebook and trying to reach the community through that avenue.

Dr. Ferguson reiterated that she would like to expand the efforts to other parts of the campus population, although very pleased with the student-law enforcement relationship building efforts.

Chief Stump then asked the committee about the alert notifications that are sent out periodically as the university's testing. Her question was were there too many messages and does the information need to be action oriented or information oriented.

Mr. Harold Jackson replied that he would like a more action oriented message. Chief Stump said that the messages are intended to be concise but limited in the amount of information being put out. Are the messages getting across or are people becoming immune to them? Dr. Nygren suggested having a specific wording on the 2nd line of the alert message stating "Emergency Action Necessary" or something similar.

Chief Stump reminded the committee of the upcoming Training opportunities for the committee members that was emailed out and invite the members to shadow them at a home football game. Dr. Nygren stated that he was very impressed with the operations and the implementation of the game day operations and he urged the members to shadow, as they would be very surprised how much time, effort and manpower goes into an event that large.

Chief Stump asked if any other business needed to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 10:13am.

Submitted by: Kelly Jackson, Office Assistant to the Chief, UFPD

Approved on March 19, 2012 via email confirmations by:

Linda J. Stump _____
Scott Nygren _____
Harold D. Jackson _____
Mary Ann Ferguson _____

Cathy Martyniak _____
Severin Walstad _____
Christina Bonarrigo _____