

COMMUNITY POLICING

3 February 2009

Location: United Way of Greater Lima
616 S. Collett Street
Lima, Ohio 45805
Phone: 419-227-6341

Present: G. Garlock, R. Friedman, G. Schock, D. Blauvelt, J. Blauvelt, C. Dershem, W. Richard, D. Adams, J. Schneider, A. Anspach, D. Barnes, J. Neighbors, R. Hammell,
Absent: B. Leary, B. Kidd, M. Johnson, T. Lauck, M. Johnson,
R. Rohrbaugh, T. Lauck, B. Prueter, Fr. S. Blum, M. Stewart
Guest Jason Upthegrove, Daniel L. Hughes

Meeting convened at 4:00 P.M., adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Chief Garlock explained background of Community Policing to our guests. Explained the team's current concerns and discussions to the guests and asked.

1. Open forum to reach community, what do you hear?
2. Open forum progress
3. Trust between the community and police what do you hear?

What are your thoughts?

Trust: Seeing law enforcement in other than traditional policing roles. In community settings, helps. Make the officers more visible to community; officers must be approachable by the public.

Forms: Excellent means to listen to people, but must have rules of decorum. Have the presenter stay on the subject matter, i.e. warrants, traffic stops, searches. Have media report this out to the community. Leaders of the community are important to reach. We give them an opportunity to come to the forum and speak. If you do not come you missed your chance to express your concerns. Be more educational than corrective. Give them an opportunity to talk and air their complaints. Chief Garlock advised that they had public service announcements in the past to educate, but they do not want open ended statements.

Mr. Upthegrove advised the team he had been at the Police Department on a complaint following a traffic stop and that the shift Sergeant handled the complaint in textbook style. The Sgt. did a good job in the way of explanations to the person and explained how the officer had to contain the situations. The Sgt. Calmed the person gave insight into the situation so the person could take it back to the community.

Mr. Upthegrove went on to talk about the biggest issue with the community being treatment. People want respect and deportment from the officers. How you deal with somebody using words that are demeaning is important. Professionals must conduct

themselves as professionals. Communications and mutual respect counts if you are stopped by the police. He gave an example to the team.

Team should have forums or meetings in neutral areas not political locations. Mention who was invited and also who came to the meetings, in the meeting minutes or update to the press. Accountable get them there at the neutral locations, have the location and forum non political, present the agenda and rules. Have the neighborhood assoc. members host the meetings. Also invite to the meetings the community leaders from all areas, i.e., community groups, churches, business persons, etc.

The team discussed that we do not market our relationships like commercial entities do, but we do have relationships with agencies and groups.

The team discussed meetings and specific topics for the meetings, and setting up the meetings through neighborhood associations.

D. Hughes:

Neutral facilitator should have a church in the circuit. Topic will dictate who will come to the locations. Are gangs contactable for attendance at the meetings? How should we make contact with them and give them a chance to speak their piece at the forums.

We could have meetings in schools in neighborhoods, also other areas not political areas.

The team determined to have a subcommittee to meet and set the agenda and who should come to the forum. We maybe should have two way training what officers need to know and citi9zens need to know about contact with the police. Need to set up meetings for listening and explanations times. Set up meetings to explain process.

A sub committee to suggest topics and facilitate for the meetings was set up and they will meet separate from the main team: David, John, Denise, Connie and Greg.

The next meeting will be on 3 March 2009, at the United Way Building, at 4:00P.M.