

Roanoke City Gun Violence Commission/ Community Stakeholders Meeting
 Meeting Minutes
 11/15/22, at 5:36 pm Melorse Library

Commissioners Physically Present: Joe Cobb, Stacey Sheppard, Kathy Cohen, Decca Knight, Elliot Major, Tim Harvey, Nicole Ross, Eric Anderson, Shakira Williams

Commissioners Absent: none

Topic (Agenda Item)	Notes from Discussion
Roll Call	<p>See roll call above</p> <p>Quorum present</p>
Approval of Minutes from October 2022	<p>A few minor corrections to the minutes</p> <p>Motion: Tim Harvey</p> <p>2nd: Nicole Ross</p> <p>Motion passes</p>
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gun Violence Prevention Marketing Campaign (Mike Bento on Zoom) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brief update on campaign development ○ Campaign concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two approaches highlight individuals who are strengthening families and children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Focus groups scheduled on Nov 29th and 30th in Roanoke ● Will come back with recommendations for the Dec. meeting ● Parenting Video Request: \$1,125.00 per video; 88 current views <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Decca gave an overview of the video progress to date ○ Violence Reduction Curriculum or ARPA funds could be used ○ Joe recommends Violence Reduction Curriculum funds for the video

- Elliot makes a motion, Shakira seconds, motion passes
 - Decca recused herself
- Youth Service Providers Collaborative City-wide Talent Show Request
 - Nicole gives an update
 - April the 8th, 2022 for the event
 - Funding for flyers and social media
 - Social media fees \$3,000.00 for NuFocus for the marketing of the event
 - Finalizing judges and auditions
 - Businesses showcased in the lobby during the event
 - Everything will be done by students
 - Joe asks Eric about the process for distributing flyers in Rke City Schools
 - It needs to go through the communications department and Kelly Sandridge
 - Nicole will send it to Kelly
 - Kathy asks how Nicole would respond to the question about how this is related to gun violence
 - Nicole states that this is an opportunity for youth to engage in something other than violence
 - Kathy asks about how we will work with the kids who don't make it into the talent show
 - Nicole states that kids will engage in other areas and receive prizes even if they aren't chosen
 - Kathy asks about support for students who aren't ready yet; perhaps some talent building
 - Nicole will take it back to the group and see if there is the capacity for this
 - Nicole will encourage conversations about positive support for those who don't make it
 - Angie asks who is the backbone agency for the event: Youth Services Program Collective, TAP, or NuFocus?
 - Joe likes the question about how we sustain the relationship with youth beyond the initial event

- Possible partnership with CommUnity Arts Reach
 - Infusing educational experiences into the event
- Nicole asks about what venue could hold a larger event for a monthly event
 - Joe references libraries, rec centers, etc.
 - RESET mentors are at Melrose library Monday - Thursday and could be utilized to spread information about the program
 - Raleigh Court Library another possibility
- Nicole stated that this was something that the youth asked for
- Joe asked that we invite the youth to describe how the violence has impacted them, perhaps that is part of the audition packet
- Chris Roberts talks about tapping into the Elementary School Holiday events
- Kathy points out that the 8th is the weekend of Easter
 - Nicole will go back and ask about changing it to April 15th
- Stacey makes a motion to fund the marketing, Kathy Seconds, Motion passes
 - Funds coming from the ARPA grant
- Lincoln Terrace Reading Program Request: Kathy
 - Request to buy books from “First Book”
 - We would pay twice as much for each book if the GVPC pays for them
 - \$1,000 for five copies of 25 new books: Lincoln Terrace can get them directly cheaper
 - Funds coming from ARP and the GVIP
 - Elliot asks if Rke City Schools has the funds on their own to support this project
 - Eric says that there may be funds but that the partnership with the GVPC is important

- Elliot wants to know how this is sustainable
 - We can supply books for three years to build sustainability
 - What is the number one driver for children embracing literacy
 - Eric states that it is support relationship
- Several kids have asked if there are any Black men who can read to them
- During lunch time 11:10-12:35 or after school 3:00-4:00
- Shakira makes a motion to allocate \$1,000.00, Stacey seconds, Motion passes
 - Faith based organization or a public school has to purchase through “First Book”
 - Kathy says that she can do it through the Temple
- Second annual Roanoke Remembers Funding Request
 - Tim request that commissioners be there at 2:30 to help
 - This is Roanoke Remembers 2022; we will not cover all lives lost since 2019
 - Will acknowledge violence in schools and suicide as well
 - Does not have the names past June 9th
 - Joe can get the names from the RPD
 - \$663.00 of expenses for Rke Symphony musicians, honorariums for spoken word, candles/latterns
 - Angie states that invoices are needed and ARPA funds can be used
 - Kathy makes a motion to approve funds, Nicole seconds, motions passes
- Request from FedUp and update on their work
 - Letter to commission read by Joe

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Averaging 15+ people per support group ● Asking for \$2,500 to assist for their Christmas of Hope Event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kathy requests a breakdown of the funds from FedUp <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stacey and Nicole stated that the funds are for food and presents ○ Kathy shares a story about a Lincoln Terrace child who doesn't celebrate the holidays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Request that it be a "Season of Hope" instead of a "Christmas of Hope" ○ Shakira asks about a gift drive through the commission to offset the money for gifts ○ Shakira makes a motion to approve \$2,500 and a gift drive, Tim seconds, motions passes; Stacey and Nicole abstain from voting ○ RVTICN and GVPC Trauma Informed Education at the Housing Authority: Jamestown and Envision center are on board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jane describes the masks and the Daisy art parade ■ Consensus to move forward with the project and financials
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roanoke Police Department Report Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See the report ○ Seeing more arrests and more cases prosecuted ○ Tim has a question about the tip line/money drawn down ○ NW and NE the majority of homicides ○ Homicides are up by two but aggravated assaults are down by six <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Could Dr. Van Patten shed some light on this ○ More random acts being reported ○ Of the 16 homicides 11 are Black men and 39 of the 50 aggravated assaults are Black Men ○ Elliot talks about the systemic concerns that lead to the numbers above

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kathy says that she no longer believes that we should divide it up by race but by socioeconomic levels; Elliot agrees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Filter out education level and socioeconomic level of offenders ■ Jane shares an article about police data and individuals who are targeted (risk of being shot) in the Chicago area ■ Elliot states that they build prisons based on 4th grade reading levels ■ Eric also highlights the lack of skills regarding conflict resolution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shakira agrees and shares her personal story regarding this and the importance of learning these skills in school ■ Kathy asks for a list of the programming in schools from Eric <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eric talks about a restorative justice program and all the programming that is occurring ■ Nicole asks if the commission can help promote the good things going on in the schools ● RESET Update: Decca Knight <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See the accompanying reports ● Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Unit Update: Chris Roberts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Empathy Project Press Conference Tomorrow at 3:00 pm at the Municipal Building ○ Case Work for 10 kids currently <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two generation case work perspective by identifying the challenges that the parents have ○ Partnering with District 15 and Gang Probation Officers and US Probation Office
<p>Grant Report Updates</p>	<p>See the accompanying report</p> <p>Joe asks for an update from all commissioner on reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Shakira has made initial contacts ● Eilliot has made initial contacts ● Eric has made contacts and has current reports ● Decca has made contacts and has current reports ● Tim has made contacts and has current reports ● Nicole has made contacts and has current reports ● Stacey has made contacts and has one report ● Kathy has made contacts and has reports ● Joe asks for reports to be sent to him ● Box Fit will be taken by Nicole

Announcements	Gun Violence Prevention Commission Meeting, Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 5:30pm
Adjournment	7:35 adjourn