

One Boro Commission, Monday, January 8, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Joe Brannen Hall Annex

58-A E. Main Street, Statesboro, GA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88448061869?pwd=V0pURDU0QTZTZitrNUYyWVFhUUQrdz09>

Meeting ID: 884 4806 1869

Passcode: 628465

Voting Members: **Stacy Smallwood (Chair), Matt Gerig (Vice-Chair), Enola Mosley (Secretary),** Lewis Crane (Treasurer), **Candice Bodkin, Johnny Gamble, Barbara King, Tracy Linderholm,** Nandi Marshall, **Karen Naufel,** Sandra Ofosuhemaa-Jones, Franklin Qualls, **Pamela Quiney, Yolanda Tremble, Marieke van Willigen,** Keith Wilkey

Ex-Officio Member: **Philip Leroy**

COS Representative: **Demetrius Bynes, HR Director**

I. Call to Order – 5:33pm

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of agenda

- A. Motion by: Naufel
- B. Second by: Willigen, Quiney
- C. Discussion: None
- D. Vote result: Unanimous

IV. Approval of previous meeting minutes (December 4, 2023)

- A. Motion by: Willigen
- B. Second by: Naufel, Bodkin
- C. Discussion: None
- D. Vote result: Unanimous

V. Public Comments: This is an opportunity to address the Commission regarding concerns or ideas on any topic. To be considerate of everyone at this meeting, public comment will be limited to three minutes per person; total time allotted to public comment at this meeting is 20 minutes. Participants are to state their first and last name for the record. Comments that cannot be made within these limits should be submitted in writing to the One Boro Commission (oneborocommission@gmail.com). The Commission encourages civil discourse for everyone who participates in our meetings.

VI. Discussion with Statesboro Police Chief Mike Broadhead

Chief Broadhead presented information concerning implementing a “Crime Stoppers” program in Bulloch County. The term is not a trademark nor a franchise; any community can use it. The name can be changed. Johnny Gamble and the Violence Prevention had introduced this idea earlier as a way to tie-in with the police department.

As shared by Chief Broadhead who has consulted with several other Crime Stopper programs, this program would have to be a non-profit citizen-oriented group. It cannot be attached directly with the police department nor can it be attached to One Boro since it is a city committee. An outside citizen group needs start it and apply for 501(C)3 status since reward money will be involved. Chief Broadhead suggested getting an account to volunteer to chair the committee. Another suggestion came from Pamela Quiney who suggested a tie-in with her non-profit group – Community and Youth Development and Empowerment since they already have 501C status. Yolanda Tremble suggested that the Commission of Business be included in a meeting just for awareness purposes.

Chief Broadhead shared that the police department had implemented a PE-PI [Pay for Evidence – Pay for Information]. It was for small scale crimes, paying \$50-\$100. They have a highly regulated budget and spend about \$1,000 yearly. Paid informants are used to provide police officers with information; these persons sign up knowing that their names may have to be revealed at some point; there is no guarantee for anonymity. Maintaining anonymity is the real draw back with getting persons to come forth. During a trial they will be disclosed since a person has the right to address their accuser. District Attorneys try to settle out of court in instances using an informant. Chief also shared that he has put up reward money himself and advertised it on social media with minimal success.

If a Crime Stoppers is to be started, then the following things need to take place:

1. A citizens group has to head it and create a Board of Directors who will seek 501C status since funding will have to be reported yearly to the IRS.
2. This Board which will decide on the crimes that warrant a reward. Chief suggested major violent ones not minor ones. The reward will be advertised in some way—i.e. social media—for information, conviction, etc. The reward money will be set by this committee.
3. A liaison from the police department will inform the Board that it needs help solving a crime.
4. Reward money must be raised-\$1,000 and higher. Chief shared that the money can be donated upfront or donated when a crime occurs. Willigen and Tremble felt that individuals and businesses would do so when asked.
5. Informants will contact the Board who will then contact the Chief. The police will never know the name of the informants; they will just do a follow-up of the information given.
6. How the reward money is given to the recipient needs to be worked out. Chief suggested giving them a code or number and having them get their monies from a bank.

QUESTIONS ASKED?

1. Are there grants available for funding? NO, just personal and PE-PI, so far.
2. Will the U.S Department of Justice or Office of Victims of Crime offer funding for a Crime Stoppers group? No, these funds are used for the District Attorney's office mainly.
3. Who will come up with the name and logo? The established Board.
4. When should Crime Stoppers be implemented? Chief remarked the sooner the better.

OKAY, WHAT NOW?

1. Chairman Smallwood with invite persons who can render needed advice and direction for a Crime Stoppers Board. Suggestions: Tina Patterson, Business Commission, and any members with knowledge of setting up a 501C. Chief will also be invited again for input.

FROM CANDICE BODKIN:

She informed One Boro that she is teaching a Local Government class and can give students little research projects if any student is interested. She has some from Pembroke, Claxton, and Rincon so far. Chairman

Smallwood suggested that maybe students can help the Violence Prevention Committee in some way, i.e. surveying interest in a Crime Stoppers board.

VII. Reports of Committees and Subcommittees

A. City of Statesboro - Demetrius Bynes

Bynes gave dates for several upcoming events for January:

1. City and CRC stakeholders meeting - JAN 10 - 4:00 pm -Honey Bowen Building. Discussion of Comprehensive Training. Would love stakeholders' input.
2. Council Meeting – JAN 16 at 5:30—Council Chambers—virtually through HeadsUp
3. Youth Council Meeting—JAN 8 – Meeting with police department. Not the Pizza and Police meeting. Just for conversation at this time.
4. Longest Table – confirmed with GSU for April 20th. Working on space due to construction issues
5. Healthy Boro will have announcements of city social media cite.
6. Deborah Walker, trainer for Department Heads for February training, will be at next meeting virtually to introduce herself and tell about her work in this area.

B. Violence Prevention Task Force --- Chairman Smallwood

This committee was not able to meet at regular time. Chairman Smallwood will be sending out a calendar invite.

C. Workforce Development Subcommittee -- Chairman Smallwood

No new updates. Next meeting will be 4th Monday—JAN 22, due to MLK observance. The meeting will be at 6:00pm.

D. Healthy Boro - Karen Naufel

This group is still working on short-term goals relating to better internet access for the community. On JAN 20 from 10:00am to 3:00pm, they will be as STEM on Northside Drive. They will be creating awareness of their committee by passing out freebies such as hand sanitizers and asking participants their viewpoints. They are also working on their slogan, mission, and voting on a logo. One Boro can participate also. Their next meeting is Thursday, JAN 18 at 6:00pm.

E. The Longest Table Subcommittee—Barbara King

Their next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, JAN 16 at 6:00pm. She will be sending out a link to all committee members.

F. Equity Metrics Subcommittee – Matt Gerig

No update at this time.

G. Training Subcommittee -- Demetrius Bynes

This training is scheduled for FEB 20, 2024. Deborah Walker will be sharing her expertise with us virtually. If anyone has any questions that they would like to ask her, please send them to Chairman Smallwood for compilation or feel free to ask during the meeting itself.

VIII. New Business

The retreat scheduled for January is cancelled. Tentatively, it will be scheduled for some time in February. Chairman Smallwood, Matt, and Demetrius will be looking into this matter again.

IX. Announcements

Everyone was invited to the unveiling of the commemorative marker commemorating the nine African Americans who were lynched in Bulloch County. The ceremony begins at 6:30pm at City Hall. It will take place on Thursday, JAN 11. It is sponsored by Remembrance Committee and The Equal Justice Initiative. There will be a candle light vigil at 7:15pm.

X. Motion to Adjourn

A. Motion by: Tremble

B. Second by: Gerig

C. Discussion: None

D. Vote result: Unanimous – Meeting ended at 6:23pm

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, February 5, 2024 at 5:30pm