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August 27, 2022

**Subject:** WPD Community Meeting - 6/2/2022, Now a Public Relations Nightmare.

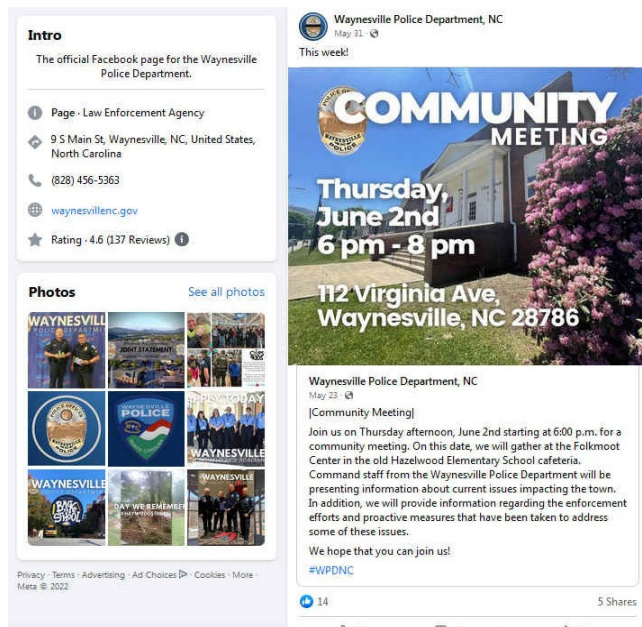
The Waynesville Police Department Community Meeting of 6/2/2022 has turned out to be a Public Relations Nightmare. “Facts” were presented during that public meeting that the citizens believed, the public later used those “facts”, the citizens got called out for presenting “misinformation” for restating those “facts”, and now the WPD will not back up those citizens, or what they initially presented at that 6/2/2022 meeting.

If you cannot believe the Waynesville Police Department, who the [expletive deleted] can you believe?

The WPD has a facebook page.

[**Editor’s Note:** I don’t believe I should be getting any news from a facebook page, because everyone who posts on facebook has to live under **Mark Zuckerberg’s** rules. That’s why you are reading this on an independent website, [www.haywoodtp.net](http://www.haywoodtp.net) .]

The Community Meeting was first posted on the WPD facebook page on 5/23/2022.



Connect with Waynesville Police Department, NC on Facebook

This was their invitation.

Waynesville Police Department, NC, May 23, Community Meeting  
Join us on Thursday afternoon, June 2nd starting at 6:00 p.m. for a community meeting. On this date, we will gather at the Folkmoot Center in the old Hazelwood Elementary School cafeteria. Command staff from the Waynesville Police Department will be presenting information about current issues impacting the town. In addition, we will provide information regarding the enforcement efforts and proactive measures that have been taken to address some of these issues. We hope that you can join us! #WPDNC

Of course, I had no idea at the time that WPD even had a facebook page.

Alternatively, I happened to catch an email blast from Concerned Citizens of Haywood County on 5/31/2022.

“-For this Thursday's meeting we'd like for everyone to attend the Waynesville Police Department's Community Meeting 6/2 at 6:00 PM at 112 Virginia Ave. Waynesville, NC/ They will be discussing the increase in crime and how they are dealing with it. They'll also take questions...”

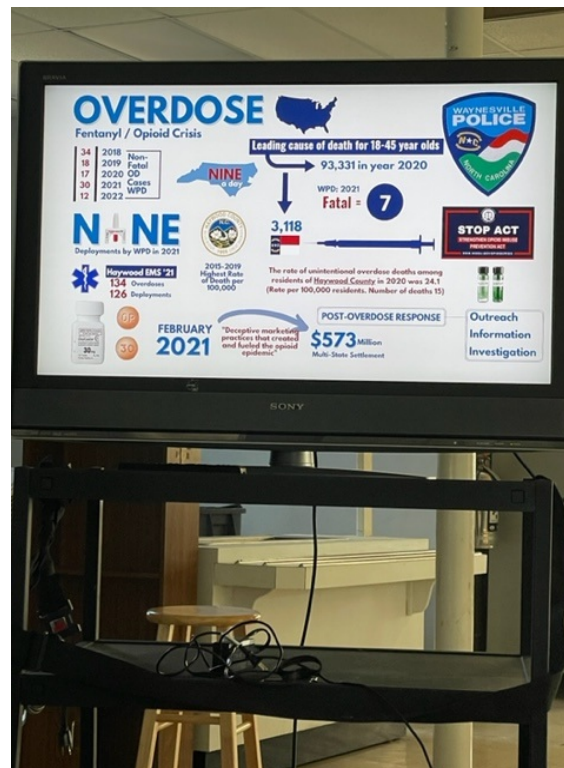
In another email blast, after the community meeting, there was a summary of the meeting. The following is a snippet of the summary:

“ ...They gave credit to all the Concerned Citizens who have been standing up and speaking out over the last few years for this very positive change.

The change is coming at a very important time, because we also learned last night that **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina! ...”**

The meeting was sparsely attended, no more than about 50 people, not including the dozen or so people from WPD. There were no public officials at the meeting. Most of the people appeared were recognized as people who attend Concerned Citizens of Haywood County meetings.

The following is a photo taken at the meeting showing the operative slide that Tyler Trantham used to emphasize that **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!** Tyler Trantham had to wheel in a cart with a TV monitor for his presentation, as there were technical issues getting the screen projector to operate.



At the conclusion of the meeting, I requested a copy of the slide presentation from Tyler Trantham. I never received anything from him.

Let's pause here for a second, and reflect.

Why would Tyler Trantham (who is not here any more) say **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!**

- It's certainly not a bragging point. Who, in any local law enforcement agency would be proud of **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!** I mean, this goes back to the days of Hollingsed.
- Is WPD angling for more money? Town of Waynesville Aldermen asked Chief David Adams if the department needed more money. He indicated they have everything they need.
- Did Tyler Trantham (who is not here any more) have references and sources for his claim? Don't know, because he is not here anymore.
- No one from WPD since has stood up and confirmed what Tyler Trantham (who is not here anymore) said at the 6/2/2022 meeting.
- Town of Waynesville Aldermen were taking heat because they failed to attend the 6/2/2022 Community Meeting, and WPD had not given another update.
- An "Impromptu" Waynesville PD Crime Presentation was made to the Waynesville Aldermen, 7/26/2022, by Brandon Gilmore. "Impromptu" - like [expletive deleted]. It was a set up. Brandon Gilmore never mentioned anything about **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!**
- At a subsequent meeting of Concerned Citizens of Haywood County, Tyler Trantham was invited to speak. Tyler Trantham never directly addressed his previous comment that **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!**
- At another subsequent meeting of Concerned Citizens of Haywood County, WPD Chief David Adams was invited to speak. David Adams never directly addressed Tyler Trantham's comment at the 6/2/2022 Community Meeting that **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!**
- At a meeting of Concerned Citizens of Haywood County on 8/25/2022, the speaker was **James Weaver "Kirk" Kirkpatrick the III**. In preparation for that meeting, he went over to WPD and spoke with Brandon Gilmore, as **James Weaver "Kirk" Kirkpatrick the III** knew he was going to take heat for the article in the SMN written by **Cory Vaillancourt**, disparaging the speakers during the public comment period at the last county commission meeting, simply for restating that **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!** There were people attending this meeting who gave a public comment, and were disparaged by **Cory Vaillancourt**. At that point during the meeting, **James Weaver "Kirk" Kirkpatrick the III** could have easily indicated that he got the word from Brandon Gilmore that **Haywood County has ranked #1 for the last 7 years in having the highest rates of unintended OPIOID DEATHS per 100,000 residents in the state of North Carolina!** Never happened.



- It was like pulling teeth to obtain slides for either the 6/2/2022 Community Meeting, and the “Impromptu” presentation on 7/26/2022. After moving heaven and earth, the slides for the 6/2/2022 meeting finally wound up on the WPD facebook page on 8/8/2022.

**Waynesville Police Department, NC**  
August 8 at 7:41 AM · 🌐

Earlier this summer, we held a community meeting in Hazelwood to discuss current events, trends, and topics impacting our community. We know that many of you were not able to attend so we wanted to provide information and slides used at that meeting.

\*It's important to remember that statistics and information change daily, even in a few short months. The information provided is as of June 1st of this year. We would also like to mention that some of the information on these ... See more

**HOMELESS**  
Housed & Unhoused... 9,280

Year	Housed	Unhoused
2016	53	29
2017	40	33
2018	95	61
2019	53	53
2020	130	100
2021	43	43

**SKID ROW**  
What is Chronic Homelessness?  
Addiction & Disaffiliation

**DRUG DOSE**  
Leading cause of death for 18-45 year olds  
NINE  
93,331 in year 2020  
WPD: 2021 Fatal = 7  
3,118  
FEBRUARY 2021  
\$573 Million  
POST-OVERDOSE RESPONSES

**ADDITION & DISAFFILIATION**  
Police Encounters...  
+5

40 Likes · 4 Comments · 10 Shares

Like · Comment · Share

Most relevant ▾

Dianne Lee Davis

## Connect with Waynesville Police Department, NC on Facebook

**Jesse Fowler** subsequently coughed up the slides for both presentations, and are now on [www.haywoodtp.net](http://www.haywoodtp.net)

[2nd WPD Community Crime Meeting presentation slides, BoA Meeting, 7/26/2022. This is what I received from Jesse Fowler. Observe Document Properties: pdf: 2022 Crime Stat Update, Author, Brandon Gilmore, date created: 8/8/2022, 11:07:39am. That's today, folks. 8/8/2022...](#)

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/220808-2022CrimeStatUpdate-BoardPresentation.pdf>

[1st WPD Community Crime Meeting presentation slides, 6/2/2022. This is what I received from Jesse Fowler. Observe Document Properties: pdf: Terracotta Elegant Company Profile Presentation, Author, Tyler Trantham, date created: 8/5/2022, 9:29:58am. That's last Friday. 8/8/2022...](#)

<https://www.haywoodtp.net/pubII/220808-F803DED5-0ACF-4C7F-9FCB-1E164A15AA73.pdf>

So, I guess I have a couple of concerns at this point.

- If you can't depend on WPD backing up what they say, who the [expletive deleted] can you depend on?
- Why is Tyler Trantham not here anymore?

Monroe A. Miller, Jr.  
Haywood County Taxpayer.