



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the Meeting of June 22, 2021

Board Members present: Alexandra Fallon, Gina LaRoche, Franziskus Lepionka, Acting Chair Lucy Murray-Brown

City Staff present: Executive Director Brian Corr, Project Coordinator Crystal Rosa; CPD Director of Professional Standards and Training and Certification Unit James Mulcahy, Sergeant Michael LeVecque

Acting Chair Murray-Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of May 26, 2021, on a motion from Board Member LaRoche seconded by Board Member Lepionka.

Executive Director's Report

ED Corr provided an update on current efforts and activities:

- ED Corr announces the city reopening. The State government extended remote public meetings. ED Corr anticipates that the Board will meet in person in September.
- ED Corr presented a draft of the laminated card that was set in motion by a City Council policy order on April 12. The Public Information Officer created the draft and Cambridge Police Department will implement the cards. The cards inform the public how to contact CPD to make a commendation or complaint against a CPD officer. The laminated card will be translated into 4 different languages.
- ED Corr explained that the State Ethics training needs to be completed as soon as possible. The Board was instructed to print the certificate or email a copy to the staff. Certificates of completion need to be submitted to the City Clerk's office.
- ED Corr stated that he will attempt to arrange for trainings over the summer, such as Open Meeting Law with the Law Department, an Overview of Civilian Oversight, and a training on Emergency Communications/911 calls. ED Corr will plan with Director Mulcahy and create proposals. Director Mulcahy suggested that the Board also be trained on the investigative process of the Professional Standards Unit.
- ED Corr participated in a training with the City of Boston Office of Police Accountability and Transparency, which has replaced the Community Ombudsman Oversight Panel (COOP).
- ED Corr facilitated trainings through NACOLE for the City of South Bend, IN and the City of Burlington, VT.
- ED Corr did a one-hour presentation and Q&A session for Accountability for Dearborn, a community activist group from Dearborn, MI which is looking for guidance on police oversight.

Professional Standards Unit Report

Director Mulcahy shared updates from the Cambridge Police Department (CPD):

- Director Mulcahy announced 10 new officers graduated from the Cambridge/Northeastern Univ. Police Academy.
- Director Mulcahy announced that Sgt. Beth Halloran was assigned to PSU.
- Director Mulcahy explained that CPD is in the early stages of planning the possible phasing in body cameras to some of their officers.

Consideration of Complaints before the Board

Acting Chair Murray-Brown moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the Mass. Open Meeting Law to discuss complaint PR 2020-006. The motion was seconded by Board Member Lepionka and approved by a unanimous vote. The Board entered executive session at 6:18 p.m. The Board returned to regular session after adjourning from executive session at 9:27 p.m.

After Executive Session, Board Member LaRoche asked questions about when the Board is notified about complaints. Board Member LaRoche expressed interest in learning about the complaints earlier than when the investigation is completed.

Adjournment

Board Member Fallon moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 p.m., seconded by Board Member Lepionka.

Documents Used During the Meeting

- Police Review & Advisory Board Minutes of May 26, 2021