



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the Meeting of January 26, 2022

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

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

Chair Fallon called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

Review and Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Board Member LaRoche, seconded by Board Member Fallon, the Board approved the minutes of December 1, 2021, with Board Members Fallon, LaRoche, Murray-Brown, and Sealey voting in favor and Board Member Lepionka abstaining.

Executive Director's Report

- Exec. Dir. Corr reported on a meeting he attended in December of the "City Manager's Task Force to Examine the Future of Public Safety in Cambridge." The City will establish a new Cambridge Department of Community Safety (CDCS), which will be separate from the Cambridge Police Department (CPD) and staffed by trained civilians who will provide community services and programs focused on some of the most vulnerable individuals and groups in Cambridge. CDCS will implement a trauma-informed "Cambridge Alternative Public Safety Response Program" to respond to non-violent calls involving behavioral health, substance use, and homelessness with a harm-reduction approach. The program will include a crisis response specialist and a peer support specialist who will be the primary responders to those types of calls received by 911. The foundation of the program will be that all people deserve respect, autonomy, dignity, and opportunity. The City Manager plans to propose a budget of approximately \$3,000,000 to support the CDCS.
- Exec. Dir. Corr discussed his participation in the interview process for CPD hiring its first Informatics Analyst for their Procedural Justice Unit. This position is part of implementing a "Procedural Justice Dashboard" and a strategic research plan that advances the work of procedural justice and legitimacy-based policing.
- The longest-serving member of the Board — Lucy Murray-Brown — will finish her second five-year term on April 30, 2022, and she is not eligible for reappointment, and her last meeting as a board member will be on April 27, 2022.
- The 2022 NACOLE Annual Conference will take place in Fort Worth, TX from September 11 to 15, 2022. The location was chosen in part because it is home to one of the newer civilian oversight offices, the Fort Worth Office of the Police Oversight Monitor.

Professional Standards Unit Report

Director Mulcahy shared updates from the Cambridge Police Department.

- Director Mulcahy announced that 18 cadets entered the CPD cadet program, which aims to give young people in Cambridge the opportunity to work with the Police Department as a possible career path. Director Mulcahy announced that a new Police Commissioner was appointed by the City Manager. Commissioner Christine Elow has worked with the Cambridge Police Department for 27 years and believes in connecting with the most vulnerable people and diverting them away from the criminal justice system whenever possible.
- Director Mulcahy suggested the Board would benefit from CPD's Integrated Communications and Tactics (ICAT) training, developed by the Police Executive Research Forum based on research and on the principles of 21st Century policing. Chair Fallon discussed the possibility of setting up a date for the Board to receive training in ICAT, and all Board members agreed it was a good idea.

Consideration of Complaint Pending before the Board and Adjournment

Board Member 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-2021-003 pending before the Board. The motion was seconded by Board Member La Roche and approved by a unanimous roll call vote. The Board entered executive session at 6:45 p.m. and adjourned the meeting from executive session at 7:46 p.m.

Documents Used During the Meeting

- Police Review & Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2021