



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the meeting of February 24, 2016

Board Members present: Chair Ann Coyne, Laurance Kimbrough, Lucy Murray-Brown, and Beverly Sealey.

City staff present: Executive Secretary Brian Corr, Administrative Coordinator Crystal Rosa, Deputy Superintendent Paul Ames, and Sergeant Thomas Flynn.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 27, 2016 meeting and approved them unanimously on a motion from Board Member Kimbrough, seconded by Board Member Murray-Brown.

Executive Secretary's Report

- The City Manager's Office has extended the deadline to fill the vacancy in the Board. Currently, there are 5 applicants who will be scheduled for interviews within the next couple weeks. Board members were encouraged to think of new outreach strategies to help draw a candidate pool with diverse backgrounds. Applicants must be residents of Cambridge and cannot be current City employees. Members of the Board provided their tentative availability for March for interviews.

Professional Standards Unit Report

- Dep. Supt. Ames coordinated possible dates in April for the Board's training on legitimacy and procedural justice, and eyewitness identification. The Board was also encouraged to contact Dep. Supt. Ames directly to schedule their ride-alongs with CPD.
- Dep. Supt. Ames stated that CPD will be participating in White Ribbon Day, an international campaign that asks men and boys to stand up and speak out against gender-based violence by making a personal and public commitment to promoting equality, respect and non-violence in their relationships and all aspects of their lives. Dep. Supt. Ames reminded the Board that here is a White Ribbon Day spotlight on Cambridge City Hall to raise awareness about gender-based violence.
- Dep. Supt. Ames warned about IRS tax season scams and "skimmer" card readers used to steal credit card numbers at ATMs.
- Dep. Supt. Ames provided a brief update regarding two hit-and-run accidents that occurred last week. One resulted in a death of a pedestrian near Porter Square, and the other involved a CPD officer and bicyclist.

Consideration of Complaints before the Board

Board Member Kimbrough moved that the Board go into executive session to review complaints pursuant to M.G.L Ch. 30A, §21(a)(1). The motion was seconded by Board Member Murray-Brown, and approved by unanimous vote.

Reconvened in Regular Session

The Board reconvened in regular session at 7:15 p.m.

New Business

- The Board expressed interest in further discussing the new policy of Alternative Resolution with CPD. The following questions were discussed:
 - How are investigators trained to discuss alternative resolution with complainants?
 - What are some outcomes from alternative resolutions conducted in the past?
 - What process will be in place to prevent complainants from feeling pressured into Alternative Resolution in the future?
- The Board also discussed setting aside time to review the city's schedule for events and plan outreach, and analyzing its effectiveness in Cambridge.

Adjournment

Board Member Murray-Brown moved that the Board adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board Member Kimbrough and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.