



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the Meeting of September 27, 2017

Board Members: Ann Coyne (chair), Laurance Kimbrough, Beverly Sealey, and Lucy Murray-Brown.

City Staff: Executive Secretary Brian Corr, Deputy Superintendent Paul Ames

Public Present: David Spivak, Rosalie Belanger-Rioux

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Public Comment:

Mr. Spivak stated that there are problems with police brutality in other places and he would be devastated to have it happen here. Mr. Spivak feels compelled to be present to make sure that nothing ever happens here. Ms. Belanger-Rioux agreed and noted that both live in Somerville but work in Cambridge. Mr. Spivak noted that he was not sure how to be involved and if there was anything like this in Somerville.

Members of the Board thanked them for coming and generally described the role and work of the board, including accepting and making decisions about complaints, conducting outreach, and the importance of having. Deputy Ames mentioned the vision and philosophy of the CPD, and training on legitimacy, trauma-informed policing, and CISM.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of June 7, 2017, meeting and approved them unanimously on a motion from Board Member Kimbrough, seconded by Board Member Murray-Brown.

Executive Secretary's Report

Exec. Sec. Corr summarized his efforts planning the NACOLE Conference in September in Spokane. There were more than 450 attendees, including 20 internal affairs officers from state and municipal law enforcement agencies across Mexico brought by U.S. State Dept. There was a reduced involvement from the U.S. Dept. of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS Office). Exec. Sec. Corr coordinated two workshops featuring the experience of Cambridge: one on a trauma-informed approach to policing, and the other about the challenges and successes in implementing legitimacy and procedural justice into the work of the CPD. NACOLE's annual meeting and elections took place, where Corr was reelected as President, and three new members were elected to the national board.

Exec. Sec. Corr also met with Police Commissioner Bard to discuss general issues and outline the work and role of the Board.

Exec. Sec. Corr informed the Board about an upcoming site visit during the week of November 13th by staff from NACOLE and the Police Foundation. This is part of NACOLE's research on best practices in civilian oversight funded by the COPS Office. NACOLE and Police Foundation staff will want to meet with one or more Board members, along with PRAB staff and CPD.

Professional Standards Unit Report

- Dep. Supt. Ames announced that Steve DeMarco and Christine Elow were both promoted to the rank of Superintendent and that CPD Lowe, DiPietro, and Wells were promoted to the rank of Deputy Superintendent.
- Dep. Supt. Ames explained that there was a shooting incident on September 9, 2017. After a previous fight, two people were shot off River St. The suspect has been identified and is being sought. Ames described that there was a shooting at the Caribbean Carnival behind the reviewing stand. There was a later shooting involving the same individuals a bit later also off River St. (which was not connected to a nearby shooting two weeks earlier). Through extensive detective work, the police were able to recover a firearm. There have been two community meetings in the Cambridgeport and Riverside neighborhoods to provide information to residents and address concerns.
- Dep. Supt. Ames further explained that there was also a missing child a couple of days ago, and the situation led to concern which resulted in a huge outpouring of support and help from the community
- Dep. Supt. Ames provided brief updates on a number of items involving CPD:
 - Friday fallen officer memorial
 - Coffee with a Cop gatherings for community members to meet with police in an informal setting will take place on Wed., 10/4 at Toscanini's and Bourbon Coffee at 8 to 10 AM
 - Both the Honk Parade and Octoberfest are happening on Sunday, Oct. 8 in Harvard Sq.
 - The International Association of Crime Analysts recognized CPD as runner up in Statistical Report Category for its traffic data work as part of the City's Vision Zero initiative
 - Cambridge's Annual Domestic Violence Vigil will take place at 6PM on Wed., October 4 in front of Cambridge City Hall.
 - September is National Preparedness Month so Cambridge is recommending that residents review their emergency procedures and preparations.

In response to a question about new bike lanes and how they are working, Dep. Supt. Ames stated that people are still getting used to them and CPD will be doing more education and enforcement.

The Board also asked Ames to invite Commissioner Bard to come to an upcoming meeting to meet the Board.

New Business

No new business.

Consideration of Complaints before the Board

Board Member Murray Brown 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 Sealey, and approved by unanimous vote. The Board entered executive session at 6:40 p.m.

Reconvened in Regular Session

The Board reconvened in regular session at 8:04 p.m.

Adjournment

Board Member Kimbrough moved that the Board adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board Member Murray-Brown and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

