



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the Meeting of September 26, 2018

Board Members present: Chair Ann Coyne, Bet MacArthur, Lucy Murray-Brown, Ted Robitaille, Beverly Sealey

City Staff: Executive Secretary Brian Corr, CPD Chief of Professional Standards Andrea Brown, CPD Lt. Sil Ferreira, Project Coordinator Crystal Rosa

Chair Ann Coyne called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Public Comment

Patricia Lewis, a Cambridge resident stated that she has submitted a complaint to the Board, addressed the Board and provided staff with additional documents for her complaint. After Ms. Lewis provided a summary of her life as a resident in Cambridge, and asked a number of questions:

- How long does an investigation take?
- Can a draft of the Professional Standards Unit (PSU) report be reviewed by the complainant before the Board reviews it?
- Does PSU come to the complainant's home to interview the complainant there?
- How much does a public information request cost?
- Are transcripts of recordings or interviews of the investigation considered public information?
- Will PSU conduct a sweep to check for listening devices if a complainant believes that their house is "bugged?"
- Does PSU investigate claims of "wiretapping" in homes?
- Does the complainant get to speak with the members of the Board about her case?
- Can the mediation process be explained?

Exec. Sec. Corr explained that the Board is not able to respond to her questions during the meeting, but that he would be happy to answer them for her outside of the meeting. Ms. Lewis stated that she would be happy to receive an email response to her questions.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the June 27, 2018 meeting, on a motion from Board Member Sealey, seconded by Board Member Murray-Brown.

Role, Purpose & Function of the Board

At the request of the Chair, Exec. Sec. Corr provided a summary of the Board's history, discussed its role and expectations, as well as procedures, including following Robert's Rules of Order. Exec. Sec. Corr further explained that the Police Review & Advisory Board is comprised of five board members appointed to five-year terms by the City Manager and are limited to serving two consecutive terms. Exec. Sec. Corr stated that in most cases the Professional Standards Unit conducts the investigation of complaints on behalf of the Board. Exec. Sec. Corr explained that whenever the Board is discussing complaints against officers of the Cambridge Police Department, the Board must meet in Executive Session under a specific provision of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

Chair Coyne also noted that it is important for the Board to follow Robert's Rules and treat each other with respect and dignity in all of their work and deliberations.

Election of a Chair

Exec. Sec. Corr explained that once a year, there must be an election for chair, and that going forward, he

would encourage the Board to hold them each September, as that is a natural time of year for things to restart in Cambridge. encouraged the members of the Board to consider running for Chair. Elections should be held each September. The Chair facilitates the meetings and calls the meeting to order if people are being disruptive.

Exec. Sec. Corr then conducted the election of a chair, opening the floor for nominations. Board Member Robitaille nominated Chair Coyne to serve another one-year term as chair, Seconded by Board Member Murray-Brown. Board Member Coyne accepted the nomination and was unanimously elected.

Executive Secretary's Report

In August, Exec. Sec. Corr, CPD Police Commissioner Branville Bard, CPD Superintendent Steve DeMarco, and Pennsylvania State Police Commander Kristal Turner-Childs presented a workshop at the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) annual training conference about Cambridge's Trauma-Informed Approach to Policing training. Specifically, they discussed the science of trauma, how trauma affects victims of crime, people involved in criminal activity, and police officers and other first responders. They also described how Cambridge developed its unique training and how the implementation has gone.

Exec. Sec. Corr asked the Board to save November 28 for a training session that will be organized by Dr. Jamie Barrett and discuss police policy, practice, and procedures.

Professional Standards Unit Report

Chief Brown shared several updates from the Cambridge Police Department (CPD):

- CPD is looking to sublease property from Cambridge Savings Bank for a substation in Central Square.
- There were two Peace Walks in the Port organized by CPD and the City, held on July 11 and August 16.
- CPD assisted after the police murder in Weymouth by activating and facilitating a Peer Stress Support for that police department.
- CPD will be leading other City departments in several initiatives throughout October as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- CPD is offering self-defense classes to provide women the tools necessary to protect themselves for women ages 16 and older who live or work in the City of Cambridge. Starting September 18-Oct 16.
- CPD has hired Jared Stanley, as CPD's fulltime PARI Recovery Coach, and his office is located on the first floor at CPD headquarters to provide direct services to active drug users.
- CPD is continuing its three-day Trauma-Informed Approach to Policing training.
- There was a highlight of police response to homelessness in a national report by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).
- There will be a Promotional Ceremony on Monday, October 1 where Officers Mike Cherubino and Darlene Pearson will be promoted to the rank of sergeant.
- CPD will hold a three-hour training called Integrating Communications, Assessment & Tactics (ICAT) Training for invited Cambridge community leaders and elected officials. Attendees will hear about ICAT's history, the Critical Decision-Making Model (CDM), Crisis Recognition, Tactical Communications, Operational Tactics, Integration and Practice.
- Chief Brown introduced Lieutenant Sil Ferreira, who has been transferred into PSU. He has worked for the Cambridge Police Department for 30 years and is a lifelong resident of Cambridge.

New Business

Board Member MacArthur will not be present at the meeting on October 31.

Exec. Sec. Corr encouraged the members of the Board to schedule a ride-alongs and walk-alongs with the CPD.

The City of Cambridge is hosting an interactive presentation on implicit bias by Dr. Mahzarin R. Banaji, the author of *Blindspot: The Hidden Biases of Good People*, held on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 5:30 PM at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School in the Fitzgerald Theatre.

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 Robitaille and approved by unanimous vote.

The Board entered executive session at 7:03 p.m.

Reconvened in Regular Session

The Board reconvened in regular session at 7:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Board Member Robitaille moved that the Board adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board Member MacArthur and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Documents Used During the Meeting

- Police Review & Advisory Board Minutes of June 27, 2018