



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the Meeting of December 5, 2018

Board Members present: Bet MacArthur, Ted Robitaille, Beverly Sealey

City Staff: Executive Secretary Brian Corr, CPD Lt. Sil Ferreira, and Project Coordinator Crystal Rosa

Board Member Ted Robitaille acting as chair called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the September 26, 2018 meeting, on a motion from Board Member MacArthur, seconded by Board Member Sealey. The Board also approved the minutes of the April 25, 2018 meeting, on a motion from Board Member Sealey, seconded by Board Member Robitaille.

Executive Secretary's Report

- Exec. Sec. Corr attended the annual conference of the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) in Saint Petersburg, Florida in October. Exec. Sec. was re-elected as president for a third and final one-year term.
- Immediately afterwards, Exec. Sec. attended the annual training conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Orlando, FL, with approximately 20,000 attendees. He presented a workshop on the benefits of civilian oversight, along with NACOLE's director of Training, the independent police monitor from Denver, CO, and the police chief from Tucson, AZ. With a grant from the U.S Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), NACOLE has conducted a two-year research study and is creating a comprehensive guide to civilian oversight and is developing a web-based, interactive directory of civilian oversight agencies and their various organizational characteristics.
- In October, Exec. Sec. facilitated a strategic planning retreat for the Spokane, WA civilian oversight board at their request, as they have newly expanded powers. He also attended a NACOLE one-day regional training in Cleveland, and presented a session on the effects of trauma on police, community members, and the community as a whole, in the context of police/community relations and civilian oversight.
- Board Member Robitaille provided a summary of his experience at the NACOLE conference. Board Member Robitaille commented that NACOLE had diverse attendees, unlike conferences he's attended before. Unpacking Bias and Trauma-Informed Approach to Oversight were themes that resonated with him. As a panel facilitator at the conference, Exec. Sec. Corr explained that CPD uses programs to encourage peer support, critical incident stress management, which help build public trust.

Professional Standards Unit Report

Lt. Sil Ferreira shared several updates from the Cambridge Police Department (CPD):

- CPD is participating in the Port Action Forum at the Community Arts Center tonight. This event is an opportunity for residents of the Port to meet City and Community Leaders.
- CPD will also participate in a Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative (PAARI) conference at Harvard. The PAARI National Law Enforcement Summit will connect and empower law enforcement leaders who currently run or would like to learn more about how to start an addiction and recovery program to prevent overdose deaths and steer people suffering from substance use disorders into treatment and recovery.
- The new CPD substation in Central Square will open on Tuesday, December 11 in the space that was once occupied by the Cambridge Savings Bank.
- CPD is alerting the public to be cautious while doing their holiday shopping because there has been a

spike in online shopping scams through Facebook.

- There will be a Civil Service Exam on March 23 for new applicants to CPD. The department needs 17 candidates to fill vacancies. If there are not enough residents applying to fill the openings, the next preferences are veterans and “lateral hires” from other police departments.
- Deputy Superintendent Jack Albert received recognition by the Harvard Men Hall of Leadership for his efforts in Cambridge’s First Responder NARCAN program.
- Lt. Sil Ferreira announced that the City of Cambridge Warming Center is open from December 1 through March from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Center on 806 Mass Avenue.
- Lt. Sil Ferreira also explained that the ten new CPD officers will finish their Field Training program in February 2019.

New Business

Board Member Robitaille shared information about a book he recently read, Down, Out, and Under Arrest: Policing and Everyday Life in Skid Row, which provides a socioeconomic perspective on the history of policing.

Consideration of Complaints before the Board

Board Member Robitaille 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 MacArthur and approved by unanimous vote. The Board entered executive session at 7:25 p.m.

Reconvene in Regular Session

The Board reconvened in regular session at 8:15 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 8:15 p.m.

Documents Used During the Meeting

- Police Review & Advisory Board Minutes of September 26, 2018
- Police Review & Advisory Board Minutes of April 25, 2018