



POLICING ADVISORY COMMISSION

Monday, July 10, 2023

6:39pm to 7:59pm
[Meeting Virtually](#)

Meeting Minutes

Commission members present: Kristy Daphnis, Christina DeLane, Ruhama Endishaw, Robin Gaster, Ty McKinney, Eric Sterling [6 attendees]

Commission members absent: Cherri Branson, Laurie Ekstrand, Jenn Lynn, Vernon Ricks [4 absent]

Ex-officio members present: Sgt. Cate Brewer (FOP), Capt. Jordan Satinsky (MCPD) [2 attendees]

Support staff: Logan Anbinder, Susan Farag [2 staff]

Guests: Heidi Rhodes (Jews United for Justice) [1 guest]

Mr. Sterling called the meeting to order at 6:39PM.

I. Attendance and Administrative Items

- Council staff took attendance and began recording the meeting. Chair Sterling confirmed at 6:42 that 6 members were present, which represents a quorum.
- Total attendees: 11

II. Approval of Minutes (June)

- **VOTE:** The PAC voted (6-0) to approve the June minutes, subject to spelling corrections.

III. Development of Annual Report

- The PAC discussed the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 annual reports.
- Mr. Sterling suggested transmitting correspondence to the effect that the PAC is preparing a final report to serve as its annual report.
- **ACTION:** Mr. Sterling will prepare a minimal annual report with the notation that the PAC is also preparing a final report.
- The PAC plans to schedule a special meeting to formally approve the annual report.

Policing Advisory Commission

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- **ACTION:** Mr. Sterling will send a poll of commissioners' availability to meet for a special meeting in order to approve the final report.

IV. Body Worn Cameras – Christina DeLane

- Ms. DeLane presented on the memo she created containing questions for MCPD regarding the department's body worn camera (BWC) policy.
- Dr. Gaster suggested that a question be added to the memo to inquire about MCPD's consideration of the mental health of the officers who have been assigned to review the BWC footage indefinitely.
- Mr. Sterling suggested recommending that officers reviewing BWC footage use a checklist of items to review. Dr. Gaster suggested such a checklist would be overly burdensome. Mr. McKinney echoed Mr. Sterling's interest in having a universal standard that is consistent between officers.
- Ms. DeLane expressed an interest in clarifying whether or how the BWC footage that is designated for review is categorized. She suggested that officers who review footage for an extended period of time could develop a biased perspective since they would compare events to each other instead of to an independent baseline.
- Sgt. Brewer addressed Ms. DeLane's concerns. She indicated that no items are immediately sent to the Internal Affairs Division (IAD), but all footage that contains use of force is reviewed to potentially send to IAD. Calls are categorized based on how they are identified on the radio and tagged when uploaded. She also acknowledged that officers reviewing the footage could experience burnout but indicated that other tasks also could lead to burnout as well. She mentioned that supervisors could theoretically be trained to all be able to review footage, but that such a plan might not be practical. She also suggested that commissioners review the BWC policy available on the County website.
- Mr. McKinney suggested that it is not possible to remove the human element from BWC review, so MCPD will have to rely on the integrity of the officers doing the review to identify problematic incidents.
- Dr. Gaster proposed that the PAC write to the Council to suggest abandoning the random BWC review process. He suggested that since all interactions that generate a complaint are reviewed automatically, it is not efficient to do random review of incidents that do not generate complaints; he further suggested that the point of BWCs is to have a record when a complaint is generated.
- Ms. DeLane indicated agreement with Dr. Gaster's perspective.
- Mr. McKinney suggested that random review will not add a significant amount of benefit to the overall process of oversight.
- Mr. Sterling wondered how many incidents have been flagged during BWC review.
- Ms. DeLane suggested that the program could be effective with sufficient resources, but it would require a large number of resources. She suggested that the goal of bill 18-21, which established the BWC practice, is fine, but is concerned that it is not currently done effectively.
- Dr. Gaster suggested that using the officers who currently are assigned to do random BWC review to review BWC footage of incidents involving use of force would be a more effective use of resources.
- Capt. Satinsky clarified that there are already several layers of review in place for any instance of use of force. He further indicated that he is not sure where MCPD is in the software procurement process.

- Ms. Daphnis expressed that she is on the fence about identifying the right approach to do thoughtful review of BWC footage, and suggested that narrowing the scope of the bill (18-21) mandating a BWC review policy could be useful.
- Mr. Sterling suggested that the PAC wait to take an action at this point but that a commissioner could write a short statement or modify Ms. DeLane’s memo in order to make the point that Dr. Gaster suggested. This would allow other PAC members to review the proposed correspondence. He indicated that this discussion has moved to a higher order critique of the larger policy than a specific critique of MCPD implementation. He thanked Ms. Delane for her work in this area.

V. New Business

- Dr. Gaster proposed making a formal request for crime clearance rates for at least the last five years, by type of crime as categorized by major type of crime as indicated by the FBI, and also by district.
- Capt. Satinsky indicated that the type of crime is available via DataMontgomery. He indicated that he could investigate the availability of district level crime-closure data and report to the PAC.
- **ACTION:** Capt. Satinsky will research the question above and provide information to the PAC.
- Mr. Sterling noted that the most recent data from the UCR database is from 2021, and that there are enormous differences in the data between what is reported in the UCR and NIBERS categories. Capt. Satinsky indicated that NIBERS captures more detailed offense data, not clearance data.
- As additional new business, Mr. Sterling polled PAC members on their availability for a meeting on August 14th. Since multiple PAC members indicated that they might be unavailable, Mr. Sterling will send out a poll of PAC members’ availabilities on other dates.
- **ACTION:** Mr. Sterling will send out a poll of PAC members’ availabilities.
- Mr. Sterling welcomed PAC members’ thoughts on holding a public hearing in the next six months to wrap up the work of the PAC, potentially surrounding the question “What is the MCPD doing best, and how can that be made even better?” He suggested that this hearing could be conducted by a formal subcommittee to avoid requiring a quorum.

VI. [Bill 12-23](#) Police – Traffic Stops - Limitations (STEP ACT) – discuss recommendation to Public Safety Committee (now postponed until the fall)

- **ACTION:** Mr. Sterling will recirculate the draft created by Dr. Gaster, with some additional edits.

VII. Adjourned

Ms. Daphnis moved to adjourn; Mr. McKinney seconded. **Meeting was adjourned at 7:59PM.**