



Community Policing Advisory Board

Minutes

Thursday, June 1, 2023

Meeting was held at the Rockville City Police Station – 2 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850

Members Present: Donna Barnes, Michael Donahue, Jaime Espinosa, Matthew Perkins, Robin Prather, and Rici Rutkoff were present. Lori Horkan, Chiara Jaffe, and Michael Scott were absent.

Staff Present: Chief of Police Victor V. Brito and Police Executive Assistant Andrea Escher.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Perkins conducted roll call and called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

II. Motion to Approve Board Meeting Agenda

Motion: to approve the June meeting agenda.

Moved by Board member Donahue, seconded by Board member Rutkoff, unanimously approved.

III. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes

Motion: to approve the May 4, 2023 meeting minutes.

Moved by Board member Donahue, seconded by Board member Rutkoff, approved 6-1-0 with Board member Prather abstaining.

IV. Rockville High School Mental Health Referral App

Board member Barnes introduced Mr. Barrett, a teacher from Rockville High School (RHS) as well as students Christian Amador and Celestia Knubally. Ms. Barnes advised youth ages 12 to 17 have no idea how to access mental health resources. In speaking with Mr. Barrett, these students worked to build a beta version of mental health resource app for the Rockville City Police. The students gave a demonstration of the app via an online presentation.

Board member Perkins suggested the students get a medical professional's opinion on the accuracy of the information shared in the app.

Chief Brito applauded the students for the work they have done on the app. He stated there are some legal challenges that would have to be looked at by the City's legal department as something that would be recommended by the police department.

Board member Espinosa suggested taking this concept to the City's newly created Education Commission.

Board member Rutkoff suggested the students look into teaming up with MCPS on this idea.

Board member Donahue suggested a directory be available with the contact information with phone numbers and support groups.

V. RCPD Updates & Meet RCPD

Chief Brito introduced RCPD Lieutenant Andy Taglienti, who oversees the Office of Professional Responsibility for the agency. This includes overseeing any compliments or complaints regarding police personnel conduct. Lt. Taglienti reviewed the internal affairs process and discussed in detail the recent changes in Maryland law regarding police accountability and the creation of the Montgomery County Police Accountability Board (PAB) and the Administrative Charging Committee (ACC). He reviewed other changes in Maryland law to include the requirement for all police officers to participate in an annual Physical Fitness Test as well as a psychological exam.

As request at the May meeting, Chief Brito provided the demographics of the city as well as the agency for the Board to review.

VI. CPAB Chair Selection

Motion: for Matthew Perkins to continue to serve as Chairperson of the CPAB.

Moved by Board member Prather, seconded by Board member Rutkoff, approved 6-0.

VII. Summer Activities

Mayor & Council Testimony – Chairman Perkins noted he will present the CPAB's Community Policing Report to the Mayor and Council on June 12, 2023, this Report will include the Board's successes, events and programs.

CPAB Annual Report – Board member Donahue noted that the CPAB Annual Report should include a recap of what the Board has done during the course of the year.

Other – The Board requested a copy of the National Night Out party list so that CPAB members can attend.

VIII. New Business

Board member Donahue noted that he attended the virtual Public Safety Town Hall. He suggested that agency provide the following:

- More customizable data
- Noted quite a few of the attendees are not part of an HOA, he suggested the agency look at how it communicates with those households who do not have HOA resources. Suggested the agency find out where people are congregating to disseminate information.
- CPTED Program – suggested the agency promote the safety survey to homes/businesses. He questioned how “plugged in” is the agency in the processes for planned communities and the working relationship with other City agencies, such as the Community Planning Division.
- Rockview – suggested the agency showcase this program more.
- City Website – noted it is not good, not useful for resources and information is not updated. Suggests the pushing/promotion for the improvement of the site so that information can be utilized by the community.
- Data Montgomery – Noted that Montgomery County Police add data sets to keep crime updated via the Data Montgomery system. Said it would be helpful for RCPD to create custom views or downloads relating specifically to Rockville. Also noted there is a link to a community crime map, but it is not currently updated. He said the map can be showcased/highlighted if updated by the vendor.

IX. Next Meeting Date & Meeting Adjournment

The next meeting of the CPAB will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in person at the Rockville City Police Station.

Motion: to adjourn.

Moved by Board member Espinosa, motion seconded by Donahue, unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.