**CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING** 

City of Portland / City Auditor

*Community Oversight of Portland Police Bureau* Independent Police Review (IPR)

Citizen Review Committee (CRC)

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2014 (meetings are typically held the first Wednesday of each month)

Time: 5:30 pm     **\*** *Please Note: agenda times are approximate*

Location: **Rosewood Initiative,** 16126 SE Stark St. Portland OR 97233

Present: Mae Wilson, Roberto Rivera, Jamie Troy, Jeff Bissonnette, David Denecke, Rodney Paris, Bridget Donegan, David Green, James Young, Rachel Mortimer, Dennis Theriault, Dan Handelman, Regina Hannon, Mary Hull-Caballero, John Holderness, Joshua Skinner

Absent: Jeff Bell, Dave Famous (Internal Affairs)

6:00 pm—6:15 pm      Introductions and Welcome (CRC Chair Rodney Paris)  
                                   Approved of November 2014 Meeting Minutes

6:15 pm—6:30 pm Director's Report (IPR Assistant Program Manager Rachel Mortimer)

* IPR initiated an independent investigation into PPB’s handling of the Ferguson related protests in Portland. Once the investigation is complete, IPR will forward the case to the Police Bureau for findings
* Hip hop review will be released soon
* CRC recruitment resulted in a diverse group of 18 females and 12 males.
* IPR Outreach Coordinator networked at Resolutions Northwest and Uniting to Understand Racism, and Slavic Advisory Council
* Kaysey Crump, a PSU Masters’ of Social Work student intern with IPR, assisted in visiting new sites for initial outreach connection. She will also help organize community outreach at all local high schools in 2015
* Community feedback: Community appreciates the work of the Auditor for strengthening and building better transparency of the Portland Police Bureau
* CRC member Jean Tuller resigned from the Committee

6:30 pm—6:45 pm      Chair’s Report (CRC Chair Rodney Paris)

* Followed recent reports of protests and the hip hop review
* Reviewed the meeting minutes from last month

6:45 pm—7:00 pm     New Business

* CRC recruitment: the Committee will need to conduct an early election of all the officer positions in January
* Mr. Troy gave a brief report on his experience on the PRB meeting that he attended:
  + The training division does analysis on all officer-involved shooting and in-custody deaths incidents. He thought it was good that the Police Bureau is critiquing themselves
  + There was also a report by homicide, detectives, and Internal Affairs and a lot of opportunities for discussions
* Regarding the PRB presentation, the Police Bureau’s PRB Coordinator had a personal conflict and was unable to attend tonight’s meeting so Mr. Young will move the presentation to the next CRC meeting
* Ad Hoc Workgroup updates:
  + The group came up with an idea of having two appeal panels. CRC would conduct a short regular monthly meeting and then if there’s an appeal, only the people assigned to that panel have to stay to hear the appeal. This will help cut the whole appeal process timeline in half
  + IPR will be in charge of writing the case file summary and CRC will assign two members to review and edit the summary
  + The workgroup also looked at changing the wording on the current ordinance so that CRC can “require” an additional investigation. The current wording is CRC can “request” an additional investigation
  + In terms of 21 day timeline, the group will not propose an ordinance change to City Council
* Ms. Donegan asked Ms. Mortimer when do people usually submit their appeal request?
  + Either at the very beginning when they first received the appeal offer letter or right at the deadline
* Mr. Denecke asked how the committee can expect the appellant to be prepared during the case file review hearing when he/she doesn’t even know if the case will move forward to the appeal hearing?
  + The idea is that CRC members will review the files and provide comments on the case prior to the case file review hearing
* Mr. Denecke was concerned that there would be new questions coming up during the case file review hearing discussion which are going to result in the Committee asking the Police Bureau to provide more materials
* Mr. Bissonnette made a point that the Committee can evaluate whether to conduct another hearing on a case by case basis. If a lot of questions come up during the discussion then the Committee can schedule another meeting. If the Committee members the case thoroughly, then there’s no reason to delay the appeal hearing
* Mr. Troy made a point that there’s no perfect solution and the Committee needs to come up with a way to streamline the process. There has been good number of cases where it was ready for the appeal hearing right after the case file review and there were no reason to delay the appeal hearing to another date
* Several Committee members expressed concerns with the panels system. If for some reason, a panel member not able to come to attend the appeal meeting, then the panel will not have a quorum to hear the appeal. There were also concerns about the diversity of the two panels
* Mr. Troy suggested to have two CRC members on standby just in case someone on the panel could not make it to the appeal meeting
* Ms. Donegan expressed concerns that the panel idea would only work if there are 15 members on the Committee. The idea of having two people on standby could potentially create more work. She supported the idea of having IPR write the case file summary
* Mr. Green also agreed with the idea of having IPR write the case file summary
* Mr. Troy supported the idea of keeping the case file summary long if it goes into details of what had occurred
* Chair Paris asked Mr. Troy what is the next step?
  + The idea is to discuss this with the Committee to collect feedback and then bring back to the workgroup
* Majority of the Committee members supported combining the case file review and appeal hearing. The Committee also said no to the panels idea
* Regarding the Crowd Control workgroup report, Jeff asked Chair Paris if the workgroup would add anything based on the last couple days of the Ferguson related protests
  + The investigation for those incident will take a while and he doesn’t want the workgroup to wait for that
* Ms. Donegan asked Chair Paris about the referencing of PPB partnering with other agencies during protest
  + PPB often called other agencies to assist them if there’s a large protest going on. A lot of those agencies don’t have the same policy on name badge and crowd control polices as Portland
* Mr. Troy made a point that PPB cannot required other agencies to comply with the same policy since they are asking other agencies for help
* Ms. Donegan agreed with the suggestion in the report to encourage officers to get out of their cars and engage with the community more
* Public comments:
  + Mr. Handelman made several comments:
    - The report should be available to public at least 2 weeks ahead of time
    - Regarding the name badge issue, the City should try and lobby the State to change state law so all the agencies are required their officers to wear name badges
    - There’s no mentioning about baton, Taser, pepper spray, and flash bang grenades
  + Ms. Hannon was also disappointed about the report not mentioning about the weapons that Portland Police uses
* Chair Paris explained that there’s another workgroup that is currently looking into the use of force policies
* Mr. Troy thought it was a good report and encouraged the Committee to approve the report so that the workgroup can send the report to PPB and have the Bureau respond in writing
* Mr. Bissonnette asked chair Paris what happened if the Bureau respond to the report?
  + We will just take it as suggestions
* Mr. Denecke moved to approve the report. This was seconded by Mr. Troy:
  + Mr. Green: Yes
  + Mr. Denecke: Yes
  + Mr. Troy: Yes
  + Ms. Donegan: Yes
  + Ms. Wilson: abstained because she have not finish reviewing the whole report
  + Chair Paris: Yes
  + Mr. Bissonnette: Yes
  + Mr. Rivera: Yes
  + Mr. Young: Yes
* Regarding the OIR report, Mr. Troy, Mr. Rivera, Mr. Bissonnette, and Mr. Denecke were able to attend the public meeting
* OIR group mentioned that they hds a backlog of cases that they are still going through. The group looks forward to reporting on more current cases
* New policy now allows OIR group to start reviewing cases once the IA administrative review is closed
* IA is now able to do their investigation concurrently with the homicide investigation

7:00 pm—7:15 pm     Old Business

* CRC received the Chief’s letter regarding the David Walker appeal affirming the Committee’s challenges
* Mr. Rivera is wondering if the new Chief of Police will explain why he agreed with the Committee’s challenge on future appeals?
  + Chair Paris said the Committee can certainly make that recommendation

7:15 pm—7:35 pm Workgroup Updates: Please provide the following information —

1) Brief summary of the goals and objectives of your workgroup

2) Date of last meeting

3) Brief summary of the work done at your last meeting

4) Next scheduled meeting

5) Main topic to be discussed/addressed at the next meeting

6) Any assistance from IPR or CRC needed to achieve your goals

ACTIVE WORKGROUPS

1. Crowd Control Workgroup (5 min.)

**MISSION STATEMENT: The Crowd Control Workgroup examines existing crowd control policies, training, and tactics of the Portland Police Bureau, reviews crowd control best practices, legal standards and other information, and makes appropriate recommendations.**

Chair: Rodney Paris / Members: David Denecke and Jamie Troy

IPR Staff: Derek Reinke, Senior Management Analyst

* The group is now closed

1. Outreach Workgroup (5 min.)

**MISSION STATEMENT: The Outreach Workgroup, in coordination with the IPR Outreach Coordinator, identifies and continually conducts consistent outreach to neighborhood associations, community organizations, and business groups to make the general public aware of the existence of the Citizen Review Committee and its role in police oversight.**

Members: Jeff Bissonnette, Jamie Troy, Mae Wilson, and Bridget Donegan

IPR staff: Irene Konev, Community Outreach Coordinator

* The workgroup is currently working on a new mission statement
* New Mission statement: The Outreach workgroup engages community to raise awareness about the Citizen Review Committee gather concerns about police services and accountability, and identify issues for the CRC to address

1. Recruitment, Retention and Promotion (Portland Police Bureau) (5 min.)

**MISSION STATEMENT: The Recruitment, Retention and Promotion Workgroup examines existing policies and practices of the Portland Police Bureau in recruiting, retaining and promoting its members, and formulates policy recommendations where needed.**

Chair: Vacant/ Members: James Young

IPR staff: Anika Bent-Albert, Assistant Director

1. Recurring Audit (5 min.)

**MISSION STATEMENT: The Recurring Audit Workgroup seeks to improve accountability of IPR and the Portland Police Bureau by reviewing closed cases to ensure procedures, policies and protocols are followed and will recommend improvements, if necessary.**

Chair: Jeff Bissonnette / Members: Rodney Paris

IPR staff: Derek Reinke, Senior Management Analyst

* The workgroup is waiting for more members to be on board

1. Use of Deadly Force Workgroup (5 min.)

**MISSION STATEMENT: The Use of Deadly Force Workgroup examines Portland Police Bureau use of deadly force policies, directives, training and implementation in order to recommend and support any needed change in Portland Police Bureau use of deadly force.**

Chair: David Denecke / Members: James Young, and David Green

IPR Staff: Derek Reinke, Senior Management Analyst

* The workgroup will meet on December 17 to continue refining the workgroup recommendations. Mr. Denecke is currently in the process of collecting materials from the training division and he is hoping to get everything together by December 17
* The group is hoping to finalize everything by February

7:35 pm—8:05 pm Public comment and wrap-up comments by CRC members

* Mr. Handelman’s comments:
  + He hoped the members are who are leaving will consider sitting on workgroups to help guide new CRC members
  + He encouraged the Crowd Control workgroup will bring the report to City Council
* Ms. Hannon expressed some concerns that when police officers get out of their cars, she hope that they don’t come up to young African Americans and pat them down or confront homeless people and ask them to show their IDs

7:30 pm Adjournment

**A request for an interpreter or assisted listening device for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made prior to the meeting—please call the IPR main line 823-0146 (or TYY 503-823-6868).**

**Visit the website for more information regarding the Independent Police Review division, Citizen Review Committee, protocols, CRC meeting schedules, and approved minutes:** [**www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/ipr**](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/ipr)**.**

**CRC Members:**

1. **If you know you will not be able to attend a CRC meeting or that you will be missing a significant amount of a meeting, please call or e-mail IPR in advance so that the CRC Chair may be made aware of your expected absence.**
2. **After this meeting, please return your folder so IPR staff can use it for document distribution at the next CRC meeting.**

***\*Note: agenda item(s) as well as the meeting date, time, or location may be subject to change.***