

CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Community Oversight of Portland Police Bureau

Jamie Troy, Chair

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Minutes
Citizen Review Committee
July 5, 2012
Date Approved: August 1, 2012

Meeting Location: Lovejoy Room, Portland City Hall

Vice-Chair Bigham called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Introductions and Welcome

Citizen Review Committee (CRC) Members Present: Michael Bigham (Vice-chair), Jeff Bissonnette (Recorder), K.A. Lalsingh, Rodney Paris, Andre Pruitt, Dr. Rochelle Silver, Steve Yarosh

CRC Member Absent: Jamie Troy (Chair)

City staff: Mary-Beth Baptista, Director, Independent Police Review (IPR); Irene Konev, IPR; Koffi Dessou, Office of Equity and Human Rights

Portland Police Bureau: Lieutenant Chris Davis, Internal Affairs (IA); Officer Stacy Dunn; Officer James Quackenbush

Community: Dan Handelman, Portland Copwatch and Flying Focus Video; Regina Hannon, Portland Copwatch; Debbie Aiona (League of Women Voters); Damon Isiah Turner, Human Rights Commission and Community and Police Relations Committee

Presentation on Inter-group Dialogues on Race

Officer Quackenbush, Officer Dunn, and Mr. Koffi Dessou presented on the benefits of the Inter-group Dialogues on Race through the Office of Equity and Human Rights.

IPR Director's Report

(See attached IPR Director's Report.)

CRC Chair's Report

Vice-chair Bigham stated that Chair Troy is personally having discussions with the Mayor regarding the appeal case that CRC returned to the PPB for further investigation.

Old Business

Taser/Less-Lethal Force Workgroup Report

Vice-chair Bigham reviewed the draft of the workgroup recommendations and opened the floor for discussion. Some suggestions for minor wording changes were made. Public comments were received from Mr. Handelman and Ms. Aiona.

Dr. Silver made a motion that CRC adopt the Taser/Less-Lethal Force Workgroup Report, with the suggested wording changes. Mr. Pruitt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Dr. Silver asked about the minutes of the previous two CRC meetings. Director Baptista said that Chair Troy said they were too lengthy, so he wanted to hold off on the approval until the next CRC meeting.

New Business

Equity Training

Ms. Lalsingh made a motion that CRC participate in training on equity by the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. Mr. Pruitt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Workgroup Updates

Crowd Control Workgroup (Mr. Paris): The workgroup has met twice and is currently working on a mission statement as a part of the overall workgroup plan. The workgroup will meet next week (7/11/12) to discuss the work plan and begin discussing PPB directives related to crowd control.

Outreach Workgroup (Mr. Pruitt): The workgroup met today. The workgroup meets on the first Wednesday of each month prior to the CRC meeting. The workgroup is working on plans for the November CRC forum whether or not it is held in conjunction with the Race Talks Forum.

Recruitment, Retention, and Promotion Workgroup (Mr. Yarosh): The workgroup meets on the second Friday of each month. There was not a quorum for the last meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 7/13/12 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditor's Conference Room. The subject of the meeting will be promotions.

Recurring Audit Workgroup (Mr. Bissonnette): The workgroup met on 6/21/12 and is in the final stages of completing its review of dismissals. The workgroup plans to meet on 7/23/12 or 7/24/12. The next topic for recurring review will be a review of closed investigations.

Taser/Less-lethal Force Workgroup (Mr. Bigham): Work is completed.

Use of Deadly Force Workgroup (Mr. Denecke): The workgroup has tentatively scheduled a meeting for 7/26/12. Mr. Denecke will email the workgroup's work plan to CRC members.

Public Comment

Mr. Handelman: said that the ordinance allows for persons to take concerns about deadly force findings to CRC; that CRC should look at PPB management and supervisory issues regarding the shooting by the Washington County Swat Team in Portland. He voiced concern about the process by which a letter from the Police Bureau not being distributed to all CRC members. He suggested that the equity training proposed for CRC should include mental health issues. He commented on the IPR annual report and expressed concern that use of force complaints are up by 50 percent from last year. He stated that the cancellation of the last Recruitment, Retention and Promotion Workgroup meeting was frustrating to members of the general public who came downtown on their own time for the meeting.

Wrap-up Comments

Lieutenant Davis announced that he is transferring from IA to the Traffic Division. Lieutenant Larry Graham started today as his replacement at IA. Lieutenant Davis made a statement summarizing his experience and observations while working with IPR and CRC during his IA assignment.

Director Baptista stated that she strongly supports Ms. Lalsingh's suggestion that CRC participate in equity training. Director Baptista informed the group that Mr. Ayoob Ramjan has been transferred to San Diego and will be leaving Portland soon.

Adjournment

Vice-chair Bigham adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.