

CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Community Oversight of Portland Police Bureau

Jamie Troy, Chair

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Minutes Citizen Review Committee January 11, 2012

Date Approved: February 8, 2012

Meeting Location: Lovejoy Room, 2nd Floor, Portland City Hall

Chair Troy called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Introductions and Welcome

Citizen Review Committee (CRC) Members Present: Jamie Troy (Chair); Michael Bigham (Vice-chair), Jeff Bissonnette (Recorder), Loren Eriksson, Hank Miggins, Andre Pruitt, Dr. Rochelle Silver, Steve Yarosh

Ayoob Ramjan was excused from tonight's meeting.

City staff: Constantin Severe, Assistant Director Independent Police Review (IPR)

Portland Police Bureau (PPB): Captain Dave Famous, Professional Standards Division; Lieutenant Chris Davis, Internal Affairs (IA)

Community/Media: Dan Handelman, Portland Copwatch and Flying Focus Video; Regina Hannon, Portland Copwatch; Debbie Aiona (League of Women Voters); Ted Luyben, Kalei Luyben, Becky Straus, Henry Herring, Jerzy Giergiel

Approval of Minutes of the 12/14/11 CRC Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Miggins and seconded by Mr. Pruitt to approve the minutes of the 12/14/11 CRC meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report (Assistant Director Severe)

IPR Work Plan / Accomplishments

Assistant Director Recruitment: IPR received 63 applications for the part-time Assistant Program Manager (formerly known as Assistant Director) position. IPR Director Mary-Beth Baptista, Auditor Griffin-Valade, and CRC member Ayoob Ramjan interviewed six candidates on Friday, 1/6/12. Director Baptista is currently checking references and expects to make an offer to one of the candidates by Friday, 1/13/12.

CRC New Member Orientation: Community Outreach Coordinator Irene Konev and Director Baptista planned a comprehensive, informative orientation program for new and returning CRC nominees to facilitate a foundation of police oversight and build relationships. The first orientation session took place on Thursday, 1/5/12. The session covered the powers and duties of the Auditor's Office, focusing primarily on IPR. Attending the session were the three new CRC nominees (David Denecke, K.A. Lalsingh, and Rodney Paris), Jeff Bissonnette, Amreet Sandhu (Mayor Adam's Public Safety and Peacekeeping Policy Advisor), new Ombudsman Margie Sollinger, and community members. The next two sessions are scheduled for 1/19/12 (Introduction to PPB Professional Standards Division and Internal Affairs) and 2/8/12 (Introduction to the Citizen Review Committee). CRC Workgroup Chairs were reminded to attend the third session to discuss the focus and status of their workgroups

CRC Appointment and Reception: Presentation and confirmation of new and returning CRC members by the Portland City Council will take place on Wednesday, 2/8/12, at 3:00. Immediately following, the City Auditor will swear in the members at a congratulatory reception in the Auditor's Conference Room.

IPR Community Outreach

Ms. Konev provided a table at the Minority Homeowner Assistance Collaborative Fair for seniors to increase awareness of the IPR / CRC commendation and complaint process. Ms. Konev also attended the Charter Review Commission meeting and networked at the Kwanzaa Celebration at Portland City Hall.

Ms. Konev went on a ride-along with Officer Stacy Dunn of the Service Coordination Team (SCT) of Central Precinct. SCT provides drug and alcohol treatment, housing, and employment opportunities to chronic offenders in an effort to assist them with breaking the cycle of criminality. Officer Dunn, along with an SCT graduate, is willing to give a presentation on the success of this program at a future CRC meeting.

Ms. Konev and CRC members Jeff Bissonnette and Ayoob Ramjan presented an overview of the commendation and complaint process and IPR's expanded powers to the African American Chamber of Commerce Advisory Board.

Ms. Konev and CRC member Dr. Rochelle Silver provided updates on IPR and CRC to the Community and Police Relations Committee.

Presentation by Chief Michael Reese

Chief Reese answered questions from CRC members regarding mutual aid agreements between PPB and other agencies.

Presentation to Departing CRC Members

Assistant Director Severe honored departing CRC members Loren Eriksson, Hank Miggins, and Ayoob Ramjan and thanked them for their service.

Follow-up Questions to Director's Report

Dr. Silver asked about the status of the appeal case that was referred back to the Police Bureau for additional investigation. Lieutenant Davis reported that IA is still in the process of finishing the additional investigation and hopes to have the process completed by March, but this is not certain. Chair Troy requested that the IA case file for the appeal be made available for the new CRC members to review.

Captain Famous reminded CRC members that it would be helpful if they schedule their appointment to review the IA case file well in advance to ensure availability of the IA interview room that has equipment available to review videos and CD's,

CRC Chair's Report (Chair Troy)

Chair Troy was on vacation in December and had nothing to report at this time.

Old Business

Tracking List: Mr. Bissonnette proposed that the item concerning CRC's ability to make police recommendations directly to the Council and the Police Bureau be moved to the closed list. There followed a non-conclusive discussion of the room set-up for appeals.

New Business

Dr. Silver reported that she and Ms. Konev attended the Community and Police Relations Committee meeting and, at the request of the Committee Chair, gave an update about recent changes in IPR and CRC.

Workgroup Updates

Appeals Workgroup (Chair Troy): The 1/10/12 workgroup meeting was rescheduled for 1/17/12, at which time the workgroup plans to discuss the one remaining protocol that has not yet been revised, which relates to how appeals are conducted in City Council. The workgroup will also be discussing whether any other protocol modifications will be needed as a result of the recent Code revisions. When these tasks are completed, Chair Troy hopes to bring this workgroup to a close so that creation of new workgroups may be considered at the CRC retreat.

Outreach Workgroup (Mr. Miggins): The workgroup met today (1/11/12) to finalize preparations for the upcoming public forum, which is scheduled for 1/16/12 at the East Portland Community Center. Mr. Miggins discussed the proposed structure of the public forum with the full CRC. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Protocol Workgroup (Mr. Miggins): Workgroup has not yet met to discuss room set-up for appeals. Chair Troy offered to deal with the room set-up issue in the Appeals Workgroup.

Recruitment, Retention, and Promotion Workgroup (Mr. Yarosh): The workgroup last met on 12/9/11. The workgroup is in the process of receiving presentations from the

Lieutenant Davis of IA, Lieutenant Elmore of Personnel, and Police Human Resources Manager Sean Murray on the recruitment and retention, and promotion policies. The workgroup has regular meetings the second Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 1/13/12 in the Auditor's Conference Room.

Recurring Audit Workgroup (Mr. Bissonnette): The workgroup last met on 1/9/12. The workgroup is currently reviewing dismissals. The workgroup continues working on review of IPR dismissals. At the next scheduled meeting of 2/6/12 the workgroup will begin preparations for their report.

Taser/Less-lethal Force Workgroup (Mr. Bigham): The workgroup last met on 1/10/12 and discussed the draft report. The workgroup hopes to have its draft report ready for the full CRC at the next CRC meeting. The next workgroup meeting is scheduled for 1/31/12 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Auditor's Conference Room. .

Public Comment

Mr. Handelman commented on how the recent Code changes will affect CRC's role. Mr. Handelman said he was disappointed with the brevity of the Chief's presentation at tonight's meeting.

Wrap-up Comments

Mr. Miggins and other CRC members expressed some dissatisfaction with the Chief's response to CRC's questions at tonight's meeting and would like to invite him back.

Mr. Eriksson expressed his appreciation for the years he served on CRC.

Mr. Miggins said that he has enjoyed being on CRC and has seen a lot of changes for the better both in the Police Bureau and IPR.

Adjournment

Chair Troy adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.