

Minutes for the PSCRB Meeting of December 3, 2020

1. Call to Order (3:00 pm)

2. Roll Call:

Present: Surena Fish, Arthur Taylor, Robert Bosquez, William Bennett (quorum)

Absent: Jeff Woodard, Dr. Black

3. Public Comment

Aditi Sharma-Leader of Not In Our Schools at Normal Community High School. Spoke in favor of adding a youth member to the PSCRB. Additional written comments by Geary Moore and Karen Schmitt also in support of adding a youth member to the PSCRB.

4. Approval of November Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve: Ms. Fish Second: Mr. Taylor

5. Discussion and Action on Case No. 2020-R-01 (Closed Session)

Motion to enter closed session: Ms. Fish - Second: Mr. Taylor All in favor.

Motion passes.

Motion to return to regular session: Mr. Taylor - Second: Ms. Fish

5. Motion to table complaint in Case No. 2020-R-01 until later in this meeting-Ms. Fish Second-Mr. Taylor. All in favor. Motion passes. Upon being provided with additional information on the case the.

Motion by Mr. Taylor- Regarding Case No. 2020-R-01, the board unanimously agreed to issue a letter of no finding and the allegation is not sustained – Second-Mr. Bennett. All in favor.
Motion passes.

6. NIOT survey/Police Chief/ Update on Youth Member- Mike Matejka presented possibility for joint venture between the PSCRB and NIOT to conduct a Community survey regarding attitudes toward the police department, and also allow the community to voice desired attributes for new Police Chief. Mr. Taylor suggested that he and Dr. Black work with NIOT on crafting the language for the survey. Final draft to be reviewed at the January 7, 2021 PSCRB meeting. A special meeting will be called to vote on the survey. Ms. Fish suggested the survey be placed on the City's website. Staff Liaison will work with Admin regarding this suggestion.

Mr. Taylor suggested the PSCRB recommend to the City Council and the Mayor the addition of two (2) youth ex officio members to the PSCRB. The PSCRB could suggest an age range for the youth members, but ultimately the final word would be the ruling of the City Council as this proposal would require a change to the ordinance as well as a change to the board rules.

Mr. Taylor moved that PSCRB recommend to the Mayor and City Council the addition of 2 youth ex officio members of the board, age to be determined by CC and mayor or the PSCRB be allowed to determine the age range.- Second Mr. Bennett. All in favor. Motion passes.

Staff Liaison will draft the proposal and submit to Mr. Bosquez for review before submitting to Mayor and City Council.

7. Update on complaints received (BPD)

Asst. Chief Wamsley stated that during the month of November 2020 the BPD received 4584 calls for service. Of that number there were only 2 citizen complaints about the BPD. To date the BPD has received 20 citizen complaints. Only 1 complaint is pending, the rest have had letters sent out. The complaints are as follows: 3 for excessive force; 3 dissatisfied with service; 2 for unlawful search and seizure; 2 regarding courtesy to public; 2 for theft; 6 for violation of policy or rules and regulations; 4 for harassment; 2 unlawful arrest and 1 regarding respect and disparaging remarks.

The BPD has received 3 requests for review by the PSCRB. All 3 complaints were regarding officers not wearing masks. And since the investigation sustained all 3 complaints, the role of the PSCRB in this matter is unclear. Jeff suggested the board follow their regular process and discuss the complaints in the January meeting and make a determination and provide a response to the complainant.

8. General Updates of BPD (Wellness Program, Awards, etc.)

Asst. Chief Wamsley stated that there are 2 individuals going through academy now and they should complete academy by Christmas. Five wellness classes have served about 60 officers.

9. Strategy update for community listening meetings on police policies

Mr. Taylor and Dr. Black will schedule future meetings with Mr. Matejka. Mr. Bosquez requested that they also suggest dates and times for the meetings so that the Staff Liaison can inform the public.

10. Future meeting, dates, times, location and topics

Next regular meeting is January 7, 2021. The next quarterly meeting is March 4, 2021 at 5pm.

The Board recognized Pastor Bennett for being selected as one of the 40 under 40 award recipients.

11. Motion to adjourn- Mr. Taylor, Second-Ms. Fish

Adjourn (Approx. 5:15)