

Police Complaints Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting

Meeting Date & Time: Thursday, January 17, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Location: Office of Police Complaints
1400I Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005

PCB Members Present:

- Paul Ashton, Chair
- Commander Morgan Kane
- Bobbi Strang
- Jeffrey Tignor
- Kurt Vorndran

PCB Members Absent:

- none

OPC Staff Present:

- Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director
- Rochelle Howard, Deputy Director
- Alicia Yass, Legal Counsel
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator
- Lindsey Murphy, Investigator
- Matthew Graham, Research Analyst

Public Members Present:

- Rosalind Tyson
- Donovan Shelby

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

The meeting was audio recorded. Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Board roll call, all members present.

II. Public Comment Period

Members of the public introduced themselves, but had no comments, as they came to the meeting to observe.

III. Adoption of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the November 15, 2018 PCB meeting. Ms. Strang made a motion to approve the minutes. Commander Kane seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Old Business

None

V. Agency Report

Mr. Tobin reported that number of complaints remains high, but has leveled off.

A hearing was held in stop and frisk data lawsuit involving MPD on November 16. At the hearing the judge indicated that he will be writing an order partially granting the preliminary injunction against MPD, but the order has not yet been released.

A policy recommendation on using civil lawsuits against MPD to help improve policy, procedures, and training for MPD is being drafted and will be shared with the Board in the coming weeks.

There have been several SITs (Student Interactive Trainings) over the past few weeks

Staffing update: new investigator Samantha Jeffrey joined OPC on November 26, 2018. Ethan Trinh has left OPC.

There are 6 interns with OPC for the spring semester.

Police Service of Northern Ireland visited OPC on January 15, 2019. The focus of the visit was police interactions with mental health consumers. A visit with representatives from Nigeria is scheduled.

On December 19, 2018 several OPC staff members attended a webinar on Denver, CO's Bridging the Gap program.

A new dismissal schedule has been created to include new Board member, Jeffrey Tignor.

Ms. Andrews presented the investigations statistics. Case numbers are still high compared to a few years ago, but have leveled off from the constant increases seen last year. Ms. Strang noted the increase in open cases. Ms. Andrews pointed out that it is a variety of factors; including the holidays and that the office is down one investigator and has three investigators who have been on staff for three months or less. The Board discussed ways that data can be reported by Ward and/or Police District to best inform them and the community.

Commander Kane inquired as to whether OPC presents at PDT. Ms. Andrews reported that OPC does not present, but staff members attend PDT. Ms. Andrews also reported that OPC is in communication with the Academy and has had influence on the roll call trainings. Commander Kane plans to suggest that OPC present at PDT going forward.

VI. Adjournment and Next Meeting

Mr. Vorndran moved for the meeting to be adjourned, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:35 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 6pm.

Minutes prepared by Legal Counsel, Alicia Yass