

Police Complaints Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting

Meeting Date & Time: Thursday, March 16, 2023
6:00 p.m.

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

PCB Members Present:

- Paul Ashton, Chair
- Bobbi Strang
- Earl Fowlkes
- Jeffrey Tignor

PCB Members Absent:

- None

OPC Staff Present:

- Michael Tobin, Executive Director
- Alicia Yass, Deputy Executive Director
- Marke Cross, Legal Counsel
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator

Public Members Present:

- None

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. Board Member Roll Call

All Board members present.

III. Public Comment Period

None.

IV. Adoption of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 19, 2023, meeting. Ms. Strang moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Fowlkes seconded the motion. Mr. Tignor abstained because he was not present for the previous meeting. All other members voted to approve the minutes, and the motion passed.

V. Old Business

None

VI. Agency Report

Mr. Tobin gave a summary of the agency report.

Mr. Tobin discussed the Congressional hearing scheduled for March 28, 2023, to review the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act passed by the DC Council. There is also a pending House resolution to disapprove the new legislation. Mr. Tobin will continue to provide updates to the Board on the progress of the new legislation as they become available.

Mr. Cross provided a summary of the FY 2021 Implementation Update, which was published by OPC on March 7, 2023. In FY 2021, OPC made a total of 9 recommendations to MPD and the DC Council. OPC determined that five recommendations were fully implemented, two were partially implemented, and two were not implemented.

Mr. Tobin recently testified before the DC Council during OPC's annual performance hearing. Mr. Tobin believes the newly comprised Performance Oversight Committee will be supportive of OPC's mission. OPC has not yet received a date for its annual budget hearing.

Staff updates:

OPC is almost fully staffed and in the process of hiring a new Investigative Clerk. OPC is awaiting the outcome of the Congressional review of the new police reform legislation before it begins the hiring process for the new positions approved by the DC Council. This summer OPC staff will once again be participating in the annual MPD Professional Development Training (PDT).

Investigations:

Ms. Andrews presented the investigation statistics. The number of complaints and open cases has increased. However, Ms. Andrews expects the number of active cases to decrease soon because the Investigative Unit is close to being fully staffed and all the newly hired investigators have completed their training and are ready to be assigned full caseloads.

VII. New Business

None.

VIII. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on May 18, 2023.