

Police Complaints Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting

Meeting Date & Time: Thursday, March 19, 2020
6:00 p.m.

Location: Meeting was conducted via teleconference

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
- Yan Li, Research Analyst
- Chris Weber, Program Coordinator

Public Members Present:

- None

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Board roll call. Commander Kane was not present for the roll call, but joined shortly after making all board members present for the meeting.

II. Public Comment Period

None

III. Adoption of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January 16, 2020 PCB meeting. Mr. Vorndran made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Strang seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Old Business

None

V. Agency Report

Director Tobin gave a summary of the agency report.

OPC is on full telework due to the Covid-19 health emergency. All operations are fully functional, including accepting complaints and issuing dismissals.

On March 17, 2020 the DC Council confirmed Ms. Strang to another term as a member of the PCB ending January 12, 2023.

The DC Council had a hearing scheduled for the proposed bill that included giving OPC oversight of Special Police Officers, but the hearing was cancelled due to the Covid-19 health emergency. Mr. Tobin has spoken to Councilmember Allen about his concerns with the proposed bill.

The DC Council mandated independent review of NSID has been started by the Police Foundation. The Council had mandated a review of the past 3 years, but there are issues with the raw data that MPD has, and the Police Foundation will not be able to analyze the past 3 years. Mr. Tobin will be discussing the issue with Councilmember Allen to determine the best course of action to proceed.

A draft of a policy recommendation, "Lawful Firearms," is currently with MPD for review and comments. This policy recommendation addresses ensuring the MPD officers are updated on current gun law and regulations in DC.

New investigator joined OPC, Quentin Jackson. OPC is currently interviewing for the remaining open investigator position.

Mr. Ashton inquired about the status of OPC spring semester interns. Mr. Tobin reported that one intern returned home and ended her internship, but the other two are working on research assignments remotely.

Investigation Statistics presented by Ms. Andrews. Complaints are continuing to rise, generally up 6-9% year to date, but the investigators are keeping pace with the cases. Complaints do not seem to have decreased with the Covid-19 health emergency, at least not yet.

VI. New Business
None

VII. Adjournment and Next Meeting
Mr. Vorndran moved for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:25 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 6pm.

Minutes prepared by Legal Counsel, Alicia Yass