

Police Complaints Board
Minutes of Regular Meeting

Meeting Date & Time: Thursday, May 16, 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 (via phone)
- Kurt Vorndran (via phone)

PCB Members Absent:

- none

OPC Staff Present:

- Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director
- Rochelle Howard, Deputy Director
- Alicia Yass, Legal Counsel
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator
- Connor Cain, Investigative Intern

Public Members Present:

- Elodie Huttner

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

The meeting was audio recorded. Mr. Ashton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board roll call.

II. Public Comment Period

None.

III. Adoption of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes from the March 21, 2019 PCB meeting. Ms. Strang made a motion to approve the minutes. Cmdr. Kane seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Old Business

None

V. Agency Report

Mr. Tobin reported that the complaint intake increase has leveled off.

Mr. Tobin reported that the Council approved the budget with a new full time employee investigator position for Fiscal Year 2020. The budget needs to pass one more vote. The new position would be able to start after October 1, 2019.

Mr. Tobin reported that the Council also included in the budget \$150,000 for an independent review of MPD's Narcotics and Special Investigations Division (NSID). The current plan would be to contract an outside consultant to conduct the review.

Mr. Tobin updated the PCB on the office renovation project. The renovations are expected to conclude shortly.

Mr. Tobin reported that the Council has been considering oversight of special police officers in DC, and giving that authority to OPC. A past OIG report was brought to the attention of the Council which made clear that this was not going to be a simple issue to handle. The issue appears to be on hold.

Mr. Tobin reported that Nykisha Cleveland has been focusing on doing public outreach presentations at ANC meetings. There are 15-20 scheduled so far.

Mr. Tobin introduced Connor Cain as a new investigative intern.

Mr. Tobin reported that investigators did go to the Venezuelan Embassy to observe the protests, but did not observe any actions by MPD officers, only federal law enforcement.

Ms. Andrews presented the investigations statistics. Complaints received are down about 1% from the same time last year, which was 80% higher than previous years.

VI. New Business

The next PCB meeting will be on September 19, 2019, and there will be no meeting over the summer. Ms. Andrews will send the PCB members investigation statistics in July.

VII. Adjournment and Next Meeting

Mr. Tignor moved for the meeting to be adjourned. It was seconded by Ms. Strang, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:21 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 6pm.

Minutes prepared by Legal Counsel, Alicia Yass