

**POLICE COMPLAINTS BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting Date & Time: Thursday, September 17, 2015
6:30 p.m.

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

PCB Members Present:

- Paul Ashton
- Assistant Chief Patrick Burke (via telephone)
- Kurt Vorndran

PCB Members Absent:

- none

OPC Staff Present:

- Michael G. Tobin, Executive Director
- Christian J. Klossner, Deputy Director
- Nicole Porter, Special Assistant
- Mona Andrews, Chief Investigator

Meeting Agenda:

I. Call to Order

Mr. Vorndran called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

II. Public Comment Period

No public comments were noted.

III. Adoption of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the May 28, 2015, PCB meeting. Assistant Chief Burke made a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Agency Report

Mr. Tobin discussed Chief Burke's and Bobbi Strang's reappointment and appointment with the Board. Mr. Tobin stated that the confirmation of Chief Burke and Ms. Strang will be scheduled in a few weeks. Mr. Klossner gave an update on the agency's access to MPD body-worn camera video. Mr. Klossner noted that OPC is the only citizen oversight agency with direct access to body-worn camera footage. The investigators have been trained on usage, but no investigative policies as of yet (they are in the works). Mr. Klossner stated that OPC was using the video for investigative purposes and has found the video to be helpful. Mr. Tobin stated that OPC is not downloading any footage, but still had immediate access. Mr. Tobin then discussed the status of the body-worn camera legislation introduced by the mayor. Mr. Vorndran recommended that the

public be made aware through brochures, annual reports, etc. that OPC has direct access to video.

Ms. Bilick discussed the agency's conciliation program and its current status. Mr. Tobin informed the Board of the two new fall intern hires, and noted the departure of an OPC investigator.

Ms. Andrews provided a complaint status update. Ms. Andrews stated that contacts were up and that the agency was at approximately 500 closures for the fiscal year. Ms. Andrews stated that the agency will probably hit 400 complaints received by the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Tobin noted that the investigative unit was able to do the work despite being short staffed. Mr. Tobin stated that OPC has closed more cases than in recent years and has had more contacts than it has ever had before. Mr. Tobin stated that he was proud of the investigators' work and the work of everyone else in the office. Ms. Andrews noted that the number of cases mediated and number of successful mediations will probably hit a record as well.

Ms. Andrews discussed the trainings attended this summer by the investigative unit (MPD professional development training, brown bag trainings). Ms. Andrews also discussed the mental health training that was conducted and stated that the staff found it really helpful. Ms. Andrews noted that four people from the investigative unit would be attending the NACOLE conference, and stated that it would be a good training opportunity for the investigators. Mr. Tobin reiterated that the mental health training and the professional development/scenario-based training was excellent.

Mr. Tobin informed the Board that the agency would be switching to recorded interviews of parties and witnesses. The interviews would be recorded on iPads that the agency would purchase. Recording all interviews would make the investigators' jobs easier and shorten the length of the investigative interview. The process will first start out as a pilot program, and then extend to the rest of the investigative unit. Mr. Tobin and Ms. Andrews outlined the retention procedures for the recordings.

Mr. Tobin told the Board about the two new community partners that the agency gained since the last Board meeting, American Friends Service Community and the Greater Washington Urban League. Mr. Klossner stated that the agency had nine community partners so far. Mr. Tobin then directed the Board's attention to the PCB dismissal schedule, and noted that it could change if the new appointment was confirmed. Following a vote, the Board moved into executive session.

V. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The public meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:07 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held November 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Legal Counsel Nicole Porter