



MINUTES OF A QUARTERLY MEETING

APPROVED

CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

DATE: Wednesday, November 29, 2023

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Urbana City Council Chambers
Urbana City Building
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tony Allegretti; Katrina Kindle; Peggy Patten

MEMBER ABSENT: Ricardo Diaz, Chair; Ashley Withers

ALSO PRESENT: Carla Boyd, Human Rights and Equity Officer; Tom Unzicker, Human Rights Specialist

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Tony Allegretti called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Roll was taken. A quorum was present.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Allegretti asked for a motion to move a vote on the schedule of 2024 meetings to near the top of the agenda. Katrina Kindle so moved. Peggy Patten seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote, and the item was changed to "C.2."

Mr. Allegretti asked for any additional changes to the agenda. There were none.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CALENDAR

1. Approval of September 27, 2023 Minutes

Mr. Allegretti asked for any discussion about the minutes from the September meeting. Ms. Patten requested adding specific points, not noted in the draft of the minutes, to ensure that the topics receive both placement in the record of September 27, and placement on future agendas for follow up. She moved to amend the minutes to include the following concerning discussion that occurred about ordinance changes:

- What constitutes a first-hand account? This discussion had been tabled, but will resume.
- Does it include video? Much has changed since the 2009 ordinance.
- Who responds to administrative appeals – CPRB or administrative staff?

The goal would be to not lose track of what has been discussed, continue discussion, then clarify and formalize procedures.

Ms. Kindle seconded the motion. The motion to amend the minutes carried on a voice vote.

Mr. Allegretti then called for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Patten so moved and Ms. Kindle seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote.

2. 2024 CPRB Meeting Schedule

Mr. Allegretti asked for any discussion about the proposed meeting schedule for 2024. Members determined the schedule could be approved, but it should be reviewed at the February meeting. Ms. Kindle moved to approve the meeting schedule as follows:

Wednesday, February 28, at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 29, at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 25, at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 20, at 5:30 p.m. (different week)

Ms. Patten seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote.

D. PUBLIC INPUT

There was none.

E. OFFICER'S REPORT

Carla Boyd's report highlighted:

- Status of complaints; she forwarded a new one to the police for investigation
- Complaints and supporting documents are in the portal for board member review
- Expect the updated CPRB brochure soon
- Hopes to make visits to neighborhood associations; asking board members to accompany her
- Spoke with members of the MLK Advocacy for Justice Committee requesting invites to congregations
- Ashley Withers, Peggy Patten and Tom Unzicker received training about tasers and their use
- Attended a two-day virtual meeting of Government Alliance for Racial Equity (GARE), which provided networking opportunities with other members

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. TASER Review

Lt. Dave Smysor presented a video from June 19, 2021. Following the video discussion was heard about when and if a warning is issued as a taser is drawn and before a discharge has occurred.

Lt. Smysor stated that UPD reporting documents have recently been updated. Reports and logs now track whether compliance from a subject occurs when a warning is given. Ms. Patten stated she reviewed 22 cases of tasers being displayed, but not discharged.

Mr. Allegretti requested assistance with following along with reports that have been heavily redacted. One suggestion was to assign descriptors such as "Person A" and "Person B". Lt. Smysor said he would pass along the request.

Two additional videos prior to 2023 will be presented at the February meeting.

2. Suspended cases – Follow up

Ms. Boyd relayed that a review of cases of citizen complaints showed some misidentified as suspended. The list started with 12 cases. Of those 12:

- Four were suspended by UPD; they include cases from 2022 and 2023
- Two complaints have complainants who are incarcerated

- Three were stalled due to unresponsiveness by the complainant
- Three were investigated and UPD brought them to a conclusion

Of the four suspended cases, the most recent was in June of 2023. The CPRB's role is simply to track the status of cases.

3. Updates to ordinance – Next steps

Discussion led board members to recommend this item be further addressed as an agenda item at the February meeting. Preparation for this could include:

- Reviewing the “Buckets Lists” created by the CPRB at previous meetings. (Ms. Boyd will ensure members have the document available.)
- Re-reading the Ordinance

Ms. Patten reminded the members the Board recently discussed:

- Language around Recurrent Requesters. This would be part of the updated ordinance.
- Use of Video
- Procedures about who responds to Administrative Complaints

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Berry Dunn review – Role of CPRB

Ms. Patten shared she had attended a community meeting to evaluate Urbana's public service delivery model. One of the Berry Dunn company's ongoing review items is the role of CPRB.

I. BOARD INPUT AND COMMUNICATIONS

1. Board member comments and announcements

Ms. Patten shared information on meetings she has attended:

- A portion of training she attended on Tasers that stood out was how seldom they are discharged. There have been none in the past year. Displaying them usually is sufficient.
- The November 9th listening session with Chief Boone highlighted use of technology and allocation of resources. One tool under consideration is license plate readers, which has its supporters, as well as those who propose investments in other areas.
- The Berry Dunn session also raised the topic of crime solving tools vs. community investment

Mr. Allegretti suggested this Board would be a good place for further presentations and conversations on similar topics perhaps even ahead of City Council. He stated CPRB could fill a such a role and the Council might see the benefits of some preliminary discussions occurring here first.

2. Applicants needed for Board vacancies

Two positions are open currently and applicants can apply online.

3. Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Unzicker
Recording Secretary