

POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, August 15, 2011
Finley Recreation Center
7701 Mansfield Avenue
Phila., PA 19150



Present: Bronson, Burley, Castillo-Perez, Chaudhary, Crumlish, Goldfein, Islam, Haynes, James, Kung, Volz

Absent (Excused): Branson, Cavanaugh, Garcia, Meade, Salgado

Absent Unexcused: Phillips, Spraggins

Counsel: Hayes

Staff: Anderson, Chaffin, Johnson, Michael

Chair Mu'min Islam called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm, and asked to convene an Executive Session, to discuss personnel and litigation issues. The regular meeting resumed at 7:05 pm.

A Review of July Minutes was postponed until the September meeting.

REGULAR SESSION

- 1. Sunshine Certifications** Minutes from June 20, 2011 posted on Commission website on July 8, 2011.
- 2. Chair's Report** – **Chair Islam** greeted the public, and explained the role of the Commission as the oversight agency for the Philadelphia Police Department. The Chair mentioned recent media reports regarding the Commission, and noted that while PAC Commissioners have concerns about the agency's structure and other managerial issues with staff, "all in all, we're moving in the right direction." The chair noted that he has recently met with officials in the Nutter Administration and City Council members, and that the goal of permanent agency status is moving forward.
- 3. Report of Executive Director** The Executive Director read a brief statement regarding recent media reports, and noted that he is prepared to work towards an amicable solution to address any concerns among Commissioner. He noted that the Commission has received three new complaints in August to date, which brings the 2011 total to 66 complaints as of Aug 15, 2011, 26 less complaints than we received as of August 15 2010. The IRC reviewed seven cases and closed 4 at its August meeting. There are currently 214 active investigations (172 full

investigations, 42 audits). Opinions are outstanding in three cases, the matter of Anthony Bey, the Matter of Kemp Banks, and the matter of Anthony Abrams. The Executive Director suggested that the next Commission meeting could be held in the Olney section, which is the area of a recent fatal police shooting. A final draft of the 2009-2010 Annual Report has been posted for review on our internal website at wiggio.com. Staff members recently attended the Weekend of Peace events at Recreation Centers around the city, and a Community Policing conference in Washington DC. Two members of the US Dept. of Justice COPS office visited the Commission to follow up and discuss potential grant opportunities. Chair Islam asked about the status of plans for a public hearing on Immigration issues. The Executive Director distributed a draft outline for the hearing.

4. Report of Counsel – Counsel Michael Hayes noted a meeting scheduled with the District Attorney’s Office to review material related to the Nizah Morris will be rescheduled due to a personal problem with a Commissioner.

Report of Standing and Ad Hoc Committees:

A. Operating Procedures Committee (Waived)

B. Public Relations Committee (Goldfein) The PR Committee continues its work on language for the new Commission brochures.

C. Investigatory Review Committee (Goldfein) In addition to the seven cases presented for closing the IRC began to consider whether cases audits should be done by staff, but tabled the discussion until its next meeting. The IRC recommended that the photo ID requirement for filing complaints be removed. Commissioners voted unanimously in favor of removing the photo ID requirement from the complaint process, and also asking City Council to drop language regarding unsworn falsifications.

D. Personnel Committee - (Kung) Commissioner Kung noted that the committee is discussing policy issues related to Commission Staff and their working relationship with the Internal Affairs Division. Commissioner Kung moved that the Commission request the presence of the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor for Public Safety at the September meeting to provide guidance on management issues between Staff & Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Chair Islam and passed by unanimous voice vote.

E. Mediation Committee (waived)

F. Annual Report Committee – Draft of 2009-2010 report is posted on Wiggio for review by the full commission.

PUBLIC SESSION

- **Tim Cwiek – Phila Gay News** – Discussed the Nizah Morris case, and asked if Counsel

Hayes will be getting a written statement from the District Attorney which guarantees that the documents presented in the Commission's case review are complete.

- **7800 Rugby St**– Several residents of this block say they have repeatedly complained to 14th District police of drug dealing at a house in the area, but have not seen police take action. Chair Islam directed staff to follow up and he directed that a meeting be rescheduled with the concerned citizens in the following two weeks to follow up on the complaints.
- **7800 Provident St.** – Several residents noted there have been 5 shootings reported on this block, but they have received no feedback from police regarding arrests, or other outcomes. These incidents have also been discussed at recent PDAC meetings, with federal officials, etc.
- **Finley Recreation Center** – Several residents noted there is a growing problem with large groups of teens engaging in violence acts near the recreation center, and have asked police if it is related to formal gang activity.

Adjournment – The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:09pm.