

POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION MINUTES

Monday, June 21, 2021

Via Zoom Conference

Present: Goldfein (Chair), Geffen, Wehrman, Mosee, Chaudary, Qayyum, Aleong, Yeung

Absent: (Excused): None

Absent (Unexcused): Rahming

Staff: Erace, Guy, Grimmage, Zajac, Hendricks

Counsel: Kivitz

Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

REGULAR SESSION

1. **Chair's Report** – Ronda Goldfein welcomed everyone to the fifteenth zoom meeting. She reported that CPOC was approved, with a budget over \$2,000,000.00.
2. **Executive Director's Report** – Anthony Erace presented the Executive Director's report. There is now a website for PAC's mediation program, a means to resolve complaints outside of PPD's Internal Affairs.
3. **Presentations** - Angelica Hendricks, Janine Zajac and PPD Deputy Commissioner Benjamin Naish presented on the Police Board of Inquiry Report. The PBI discipline and hearing process was described. A data team, comprised of experts, focused along with PAC on key areas for reform. These included: lengthy investigations, vague or inconsistent categorization of complaints, a disproportionate number (86%) of dismissals, sustained allegations downgraded, and minimal penalties for officers found guilty. PAC made formal recommendations in areas where there are missed opportunities for fair and appropriate discipline. For example, PAC studied charges (often insufficient or inapplicable), and made suggestions to improve the charging function. PAC studied the PBI processes and made a recommendation that a request be made for a hearing to be continued if complainant was not notified properly to appear. Other recommendations include involving civilians in the process, dedicating more personnel to the prosecution process, clearly defining the burden of proof, and making the process more accessible to the public. There will also be a Part II, including seeking public feedback, with additional PAC recommendations.

Deputy Commissioner Naish discussed his role, and presented a chart showing PAC's Recommendations, along with the points accepted and/or implemented by PPD. Of the 27 recommendations, 5 were previously implemented, 11 have been accepted or implemented, 9 accepted with barriers (e.g., FOP), and 2 are being reviewed further.

4. **Public Comment** - PPD is putting together a matrix, which will allow the public to match up PAC recommendations with PPD actions as to each point. One citizen asked how the disciplinary matrix relates to the collective bargaining agreement and disciplinary code. If there is an allegation of criminal conduct, the investigation must be cleared by the DA's Office before it can go through a PBI hearing. One question addressed which civilians might be included in the process. PAC responded that it could be in the prosecution function as well as acting as panelists.

7:40 PM – The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be July 12, 2021, at 6:00 PM and will be held via Zoom.