

MINUTES
Citizens Police Review Board

March 11, 2015

7:00 p.m.

City Hall – New Addition

City Council Chambers

701 East Broadway

Columbia, Missouri

Board Members Present: Dr. Martin, Mr. Dean, Mr. Sheltmire, Mr. Fisher, Ms. Bush, Mr. Hargrove, and Ms. Woods.

Absence: None.

Staff Present: Ms. Wibbenmeyer and Sgt. Paul Dickinson.

Members of the public were present.

Dr. Martin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Sheltmire moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Dean seconded the minutes. The draft minutes of the February 11, 2015 meeting were distributed in advance of the meeting and were approved.

Reports:

Positive Connections and Ride Alongs:

Ms. Woods reported that she completed a ride along last Friday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Outreach Subcommittee:

Mr. Sheltmire will provide Sgt. Dickinson some brochures. The Board would like to order some of the old design brochures. They would like to incorporate a qr code sticker. Mr. Hargrove will assist staff in this regard.

Dr. Martin said that the Camdenton group would like to meet with some Board members again.

Mediation Task Force Report

Mr. Dean said that there were only two members. Mr. Fisher volunteered to serve on the task force. Mr. Dean asked Sgt. Dickinson about the status of using mediation. Sgt. Dickinson said that was the chief's decision. Mr. Dean said that he would work on scheduling something with the chief. The Board may also discuss this with the chief when they meet with him.

Unfinished Business:

Our Process for Review:

Mr. Dean said that this topic involves what they should do, now that they have access to the complaints and concerns submitted to the police department. Mr. Dean said that he would like to see the dispositions of the complaints.

Mr. Dean and Mr. Hargrove will work on developing a process for review of complaints and the procedure with a time line for compliance with sunshine and meeting processes.

CPRB Brochures:

Ms. Woods discussed developing a description of the process for an appeal so that it may be included in the brochure. Ms. Woods asked if it was ok with Sgt. Dickinson to describe the police process as well. Ms. Woods will work with Mr. Dean on developing the information on the processes. Sgt. Dickinson said that the policy on the police department's process for a complaint is available to the Board members on the police site.

Ms. Bush suggested placing (CPRB) after Citizens Police Review Board the first time it references Citizens Police Review Board in the brochure or possibly on each page.

Mr. Dean said that they should include information about mediation and that there is a mediation program.

Ms. Woods said that she had possible changes to the complaint form. Ms. Woods suggested that she and Sgt. Dickinson collaborate on a complaint form. Ms. Woods will contact Sgt. Dickinson for this collaboration.

Ms. Bush asked about the ability to include police policies, statutes and ordinances. Ms. Woods suggested that they could include hyper-links to the statutes and the ordinances. Dr. Martin expressed concerns that it might be difficult for people to file a complaint and that it may deter people from filing a complaint. Dr. Martin expressed that simplicity is important so as to not discourage the filing of a complaint. Mr.

Hargrove said that he was also concerned that if the form is too complicated people would be discouraged.

Ms. Woods asked for a definition of misconduct to be included on the complaint form.

Mr. Dean would like a checkbox to indicate an interest in mediation on the complaint form.

New Business:

Review of CPRB 2015-0001:

Dr. Martin stated that CPRB 2015-0001 is set for a jurisdictional review.

Ms. Bush said that it does appear to be timely filed and that it does allege misconduct. Mr. Hargrove agreed that it does meet all of the requirements for timeliness and an allegation of misconduct.

Ms. Bush asked Sgt. Dickinson what “handled badly” means as Mr. Harris did not elaborate in his complaint.

Sgt. Dickinson said that Mr. Harris filed another complaint which was investigated.

Mr. Sheltmire moved that case 2015-0001 meets the requirements of police misconduct and to send it back to the chief for investigation or referral to mediation. Ms. Bush seconded the motion. The motion carried by a majority with Ms. Busch, Mr. Dean, Mr. Fisher, Dr. Martin, Mr. Sheltmire, and Ms. Woods voting in favor of the motion and Mr. Hargrove voting against it.

Ms. Bush and Ms. Woods felt that the “handling badly” portion of the complaint would be the issue. Mr. Dean also thought there was an allegation suggesting that the evidence was planted or false arrest. Mr. Hargrove would like to look at the police department’s investigatory file to clarify the “handling badly” if it is available. Mr. Hargrove feels the Board could ask for clarification of the “handling badly” in the statement before the next meeting. In his opinion, Mr. Hargrove doesn’t feel they are ready to send it back to the chief yet and the Board needs further information such as if the complainant was asked to clarify “handling badly.”

In regard to appeals to the CPRB, Mr. Hargrove suggested that Sgt. Dickinson send an email stating there wasn’t an investigation or additional investigation done if there was none so the Board would know that no further information is available.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Board member and Staff Comment:

Ms. Wibbenmeyer reminded the Board that supplemental budget requests are due soon.

Mr. Dean said that the April agenda should include NACOLE attendee selection because scholarship applications are due in May.

Mr. Dean commended the police department for releasing the use of force report. Mr. Dean suggests that Sgt. Dickinson include the number of appeals to the Board. Mr. Dean asked for an excel spreadsheet with the complaint information on it. Sgt. Dickinson said he would have to check into it.

Ms. Woods said that the law school had a symposium on Ferguson.

Mr. Hargrove reported that he had an interview with ABC Channel 17 recently.

Mr. Sheltmire asked about recruit classes. Sgt. Dickinson said he thought there may currently be some in the academy.

Adjournment:

Mr. Sheltmire moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Woods seconded the motion. The Board unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.