

OPARB
Minutes of
Wednesday, September 3, 2014 Meeting
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Elizabeth Holohan, Chair – P
Joe Hawe, Member – P
Al Marks, Member – P

Donald Felder, Member – P
John Levytsky – P
Michael Pendleton, Consultant – P*

*(Absent = A, Present = P, Excused = E, * = by phone)*

1. Approval of agenda and minutes

Due to time constraints, this item was not reviewed.

2. Strategic Plan Projects

The Board would like to begin working on perspective Strategic Plan Projects as soon as is convenient and practical. While the setup is a time consuming process, once everything is started the results should come quickly. It is OPARB's hope that they will be able to identify issues using the data that is collected.

3. Website Review

The July 11th open letter was referred for posting on the OPARB website.

4. Old Business

Excitement continues to exist over the prospect of gaining new members. Applications are still being accepted and anyone who has not already done so is encouraged to submit their cover letter and resume to Council Member Harrell's office or to OPARB via the City Clerk's office.

Ferguson, Missouri again came up as a topic of discussion for the Board. Some of the members wondered if the emotional state of police officers was ever taken into account when traumatic events occurred and if they received support. The answer is yes. It was pointed out that large cities such as Seattle have dedicated personnel to assist in mental wellbeing. However, social dynamics in large cities can still play a large role. Officers often go through a lot and based on events a state of hyper vigilance can occur on both the resident and officer sides. On the whole, the group felt that with Kathleen O'Toole now heading SPD, this will go a long way in deescalating tensions across the board. This may be a slow process though.

5. New Business

The Director of OPA, Pierce Murphy, will begin coming to OPARB meetings starting in October. Members of OPARB are excited to have an opportunity to work collaboratively. Additionally, with the NACOLE conference interfering with the next regularly scheduled meeting, the next meeting will occur on September 24th.