

MINUTES

Community Police Commission (CPC)

December 11, 2013, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, Conference Room 1610

CPC Attendees: Lisa Daugaard and Diane Narasaki, co-chairs; Claudia D’Allegri, Jay Hollingsworth, Kate Joncas, Joseph Kessler, Tina Podlodowski, Kevin Stuckey, Rev. Harriett Walden, Rev. Aaron Williams

CPC Absent: Bill Hobson, Marcel Purnell, Jennifer Shaw

CPC Staff: Betsy Graef, Tracy Whitlatch

PUBLIC COMMENT

Four members of the public offered testimony, one of whom provided a written statement identifying concerns with the CPC’s recent community outreach and policy development process.

REVIEW AGENDA AND APPROVE MINUTES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Harriett Walden added one item to the draft agenda, regarding a press release involving Mother’s For Police Accountability.

Tina Podlodowski announced that she has accepted Mayor-Elect Murray’s appointment to be his lead on public safety in the Mayor’s Office of Policy & Innovation

Moved, seconded, and passed (10-0-0): "To approve with no changes the draft 11/27/13 CPC meeting minutes."

COMMUNICATIONS AND WORK PLAN WITH OTHER PARTIES

Discussion with U.S. Attorney Jenny Durkan

Jenny Durkan thanked the commissioners for being involved with the process of reform and expressed appreciation for the progress made and incredible community response the CPC received as a result of its outreach activities. She noted that she had met with Merrick Bobb on December 10th and everyone agrees there is a need to “re-set” relations. Jenny also made clear that she will always be personally available to the CPC and its members.

Jenny cited the Justice Department’s commitment to reform and to the existing two party process, and noted that the CPC has important responsibilities to fulfill. In particular, she indicated that the CPC has limited resources and needs to focus on the tasks spelled out for it in the Settlement Agreement—the review and recommendations concerning the police accountability system alone will be a substantial task. She also believes the CPC’s role will be most critical as new policies and training roll out.

Jenny also stated that the CPC's policy recommendations have been considered, and some have or will be incorporated into the City's final policy drafts. She also stated that the 2014 deadlines are more manageable, thus everyone, including the CPC, will have more time to work together to produce policies that are acceptable to all.

The Department of Justice has a strong commitment to community and knows that the CPC is an important community partner, but Jenny also stated that the CPC "does not own the community" and it has other sources for community input.

Jenny indicated that the story should not be about the fight between us, but rather the goal. The CPC should choose its battles carefully, and focus on the end game—seeking to create a model of how to establish Constitutional policing and achieve policing excellence.

Lisa Daugaard thanked Jenny for meeting with the CPC, and noted the importance of being open and frank with one another. Lisa stated that the CPC has met its past deadlines and that the proposed shifts in upcoming deadlines were reasonable in order to allow meaningful community involvement. Community involvement provides substantive insights and supports longer term legitimacy.

Claudia D'Allegri added that it is important to provide sufficient time for community outreach. In our time constrained process last fall, we had a variety of problems that undercut the work.

Tina Podlowski noted that the community has to believe that its input matters, otherwise the CPC will fail to meet its charge.

A number of members agreed with Jenny that the accountability work is critically important, and Jenny concurred with the CPC perspective that this work has a broader focus than just OPA.

Harriett Walden reminded Jenny that the CPC was highly successful with its recent community outreach, collecting over 3000 surveys, many in different languages, from all parts of the community. She is concerned that the federal judge doesn't know how much has been done to obtain the views of community members. Jenny responded that she believes the judge does indeed know of this substantial accomplishment by the CPC.

Diane Narasaki responded to Jenny's statement that "the CPC does not own the community". Diane noted that while the CPC represents many different communities, its members cannot represent the whole community which is why it is serious about conducting community outreach. SPD might have "perfect" or the "best" policies, but that won't be enough—legitimacy matters. There is enthusiasm in the community and also cynicism. To counter cynicism, we must be genuine in seeking community views and transparent with the community. Diane also thanked Jenny, and her colleagues, for meeting with the CPC.

Response to request to meet with Monitor team

Diane Narasaki and Lisa are meeting with Merrick and the Monitor team on December 12th to discuss communications between the Monitor, the Monitor's team and the CPC. They will also discuss the process involved prior to the Monitor's finalizing his policy filings (see next item).

Other related items

Lisa Daugaard reported that the CPC's use of force policy was sent to Merrick Bobb on November 27th. (The Monitor also filed his use of force recommendations on November 27th.)

The Monitor will file his recommendations regarding Bias-Free Policing and Stops and Detentions to the Court on December 31st. SPD

There is an open question about how CPC will be involved with the Monitor and the parties if any additional changes to the submitted policies are under consideration; it wants to be kept informed and involved in the discussion since CPC is better suited to respond to any questions raised about its proposed language. The CPC is also not clear on the Monitor's timeframe for ICV policies; the Monitoring team noted that they are waiting to see if the City achieves a consensus position (the Seattle Human Rights Commission continues to have concerns about whether additional triggers are needed). The CPC also wants to participate in the ICV discussion.

UPDATE ON BRIEFING WITH MURRAY TRANSITION CO-CHAIR MARTHA CHOE

Lisa Daugaard, Diane Narasaki, and Kate Joncas met with Mayor-Elect Murray's transition co-chair Martha Choe. They discussed the progress and charge of the CPC, its independent role, and the changes the CPC is striving to make in SPD policy, and asked for the Mayor's assistance in supporting future outreach efforts in the community. They also noted the lack of planning in SPD for cultural change. The co-chairs plan to schedule a meeting with Mayor Murray to discuss how to foster CPC independence and to ask for his assistance in "re-setting" the relationship between the CPC and the parties. They will also discuss with him the need to fill current CPC vacancies.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

Combined Training Workgroup

This workgroup will focus on training recommendations involving Bias-Free Policing, Stops and Detentions and Use of Force. For this reason, the members of the existing policy workgroups will meet together to discuss all training recommendations. The policy workgroups will suspend meeting for the time being. Regular meetings of the Training Workgroup will be set up by staff.

Crisis Intervention Workgroup

A letter to the CIT Steering Committee will be sent December 12th identifying the need to include cultural competency in the CIT training curriculum. CIT trained officers need to be sensitive when dealing with persons in behavioral crises.

In-car Video Workgroup

No additional information was cited (see "other related items" above).

OPA/Accountability Workgroup

There will be a four hour workgroup retreat on December 18th to provide a foundation of information about OPA, and to formulate a charge and begin to develop a workplan for 2014. Since this is a very important area of CPC work, all commissioners are encouraged to attend. The group concurred with Lisa Daugaard's suggestion that the scope of work goes beyond making recommendations about OPA and should include consideration of other elements of SPD's accountability system, including discipline, mechanisms for adopting OPA and other recommended changes, etc.) Jay Hollingsworth added that CPC recommendations may also include legislative proposals. For this reason, the CPC agreed to change the title of the workgroup.

Moved, seconded, and passed (10-0-0): "To change the name of the workgroup, from 'OPA Workgroup' to 'Accountability Workgroup'."

Jay Hollingsworth suggested that the CPC website be updated to show the current status of workgroups.

Community Engagement

On December 5th and 6th Claudia D'Allegri and Kate Joncas facilitated follow-up meetings with the CPC partners who participated in the outreach effort in October. The purpose of the meetings was to receive feedback on draft material for the Community Engagement Report. This feedback will be incorporated into the final version of the report which the CPC intends to adopt on January 8th. There were approximately 20 attendees at each meeting. The general consensus was that the CPC is doing good work and the community is hopeful of a possibility of change in policy and culture in the police department. Highlights of the feedback included a few translation issues, difficulties in communicating complex policies, and insufficient time to complete the outreach. No major revisions were suggested for the report.

MOTHERS FOR POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY PRESS RELEASE

Harriett Walden shared the Mothers for Police Accountability press release with the group. The release notes the group's views on recent demotions by Chief Pugel and its belief that the entire Command Staff should be replaced and Nick Metz should be reinstated. Harriett reminded everyone that Nick Metz spearheaded the increased cooperation of the Use of Force Review Board and the Firearm Review Board.

DIRECTOR SEARCH

A list of all applicants for the Director position has been prepared, including recommendations of a subset of applicants for further consideration. The list will be made available to all commissioners.

PLANNING RESPONSE TO MONITOR REPORT

The Monitor's report will be released on December 15th and plans for responding to it will be discussed at the next CPC meeting. Per the MOU, the CPC is responsible for reviewing the reports and recommendations of the Monitor, but there is no specific language that calls for the CPC to issue a documented response.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS AND EMERGING ISSUES

1. Discuss Monitor's report at January 8th CPC meeting.
2. Discuss setting a date for a "reset" meeting involving all parties.
3. Discuss expectations for the newly vacated Commissioner position.

**January 8, 2014, 8:45 am to 11:45 am
Seattle Municipal Tower
700 5th Avenue, 17th Floor, Room 1756**