

OPARB
Minutes of
Wednesday, July 18, 2013 Meeting
5:30 pm - 7:45 pm

Dale Tiffany, Chair - P
Liz Holohan, Member - P
Pat Sainsbury, Member – P
Michael Pendleton Consultant - P

Joe Hawe, Member - P
Claudia D'Allegrì, Member – A

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

1. Approval of 7/10 Meeting Minutes – Adjustments by Dale made and re-sent to members.

2. **Discussion – Office of Professional Accountability (OPA) Director(s)**
Katheryn Olson (OPA) shared her accomplishments:
 - Ensure quality investigations.
 - Did a first draft of the training manual still working on it.
 - Using the manual to reach out to the public.

The number of complaints keeps going up and as noted in her report. From the perspective of the working class, there is always room for improvement and Katheryn) thinks that part of the delay is due to the system. The complaint tracking system doesn't track appeals. The classification and binding system still confusing to some. 1/1/13 started scanning all closed cases, done for the monitoring team. The Monitor's staff is looking at closed cases. Merrick (Federal Monitor) thinks these cases look good. Working on report legislation. What is the best way to do oversight in Seattle There are several areas of overlap between OPA, OPARB, and the CPC. Katheryn's report is still a draft and will be shared when finalized. The Monitor and his crew bring a lot of assets to the community. Change will not be seen until permanent chief of police is in place.

The discussion turned to 2 board vacancies still pending. An accountability system should be investigated to study the best sergeants and question how they became so successful. And use them as a learning tool. Wrap-up at a point where some choices will have to be made political or personal. Politically folks are territorial. Haven't had a joint project in quite some time. Katheryn felt that more can be done through a joint standpoint and doesn't want to wait for the Monitor or CPC to tell them what to do.

The big picture for Pierce is to reinforce and strengthen the perception of the OPA office. Communicate to the community at large and the community internally. He feels OPA has a branding problem and would like to work on it. OPA/SPD website outside of the .gov website, i.e. .org. A lot of work to be done in process improvement system with a lot of waste, redundancy, etc. He was hired into a leadership role. He also wants to hire a good manager to keep everything moving. And for OPARB to be supportive of these decisions and system improvements as a joint project. Sooner rather than later he wants OPA in one office. OPA stills needs to be close to SPD but not in the same office. Pierce feels that this should be done quickly and the office should be inviting and not threatening, friendly and open to the public. More approaching by balancing the security of staff.

3. Discussion – Next steps for OPARB

Michael summarized the Public Safety Committee meeting held on July 17th ,

Let Marjorie Clark know if you want to attend the NACOLE Conference in Salt Lake City, UTAH, September 22-26.

Adjourn