

MINUTES

Community Police Commission (CPC)

May 11, 2016, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

City Hall, 600 4th Avenue, Room 370

CPC Attendees: Lisa Daugaard, co-chair, Rev. Harriet Walden, co-chair, Enrique Gonzalez, Kay Godefroy, Jay Hollingsworth, David Keenan, Marcel Purnell, Rev. Aaron Williams

CPC Absent: Claudia D'Allegri, Josias Flynn, Melinda Giovengo, Taylor Hoang, Isaac Ruiz, Kevin Stuckey

CPC Staff: Fé Lopez, Anne Bettsworth, Minty LongEarth, Betsy Graef, Tracy Whitlatch

REVIEW AGENDA AND APPROVE MINUTES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moved, seconded, and passed (8-0-0): "To approve with amendment the 4/27/16 CPC Meeting minutes and the amended 5/11/16 agenda."

SPD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Staff and commissioners conducted 14 focus groups. Approximately 90 community leaders and officers participated. Staff will analyze the data and conduct follow up interviews.

Staff will field test some recommendations at the upcoming Department of Neighborhoods (DON) Quarterly community meetings in July and August. DON anticipates roughly 100 to 150 people will attend.

BUILDING SAFE COMMUNITIES UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Two CPC representatives attended the Building Communities of Trust meeting conducted by the Department of Homeland Security, the Washington State Fusion Center and SPD. The presenters gave an overview of the FUSION center and how it works with other agencies.

The staff CPC representative shared some concerns with the commission about the FUSION center such as its accountability structure, privacy policy, community engagement and information sharing with other agencies.

Action Item

TRAINING WORKGROUP

SPD's Bias-Free Policing Training was presented to the Seattle Office of Civil Right (SOCR) and the CPC on May 10, 2016. CPC and SOCR expressed substantive concerns that they will share with SPD. They also will provide recommendations to improve the training.

Moved, seconded, and passed (8-0-0): "To approve asking SPD to not roll out this training until the CPC can meet with SPD command staff to recommend changes to improve it."

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMER ACTIVITIES PROPOSALS

The CPC hopes to participate in a few summer community engagement activities, but there are some capacity issues. A vast majority of commissioners will walk in the Pride Parade on June 26th. Staff will send out a list of events to the Commission for commissioners to sign-up to represent the CPC.

2016 MAY DAY DEMONSTRATION DISCUSSION: SPD USE OF BLAST BALLS

Last year, the CPC sent a letter to SPD regarding SPD's response to various demonstrations including the Black Lives Matter demonstrations. In the letter, the CPC identified areas for further discussion and requested that the SPD engage with impacted communities to discuss the issues and identify ways to improve SPD's response. One of the areas of concern related to the use of blast balls.

This year, SPD used blast balls at the May Day demonstration that resulted in injuries. A member of the public attended the CPC meeting and spoke about his concerns and shared what he described as the remnants of a blast ball that hit another observer during the demonstrations.

The CPC will request an after action dialog with the community, CPC and SPD to discuss issues and challenges faced by both demonstrators and officers. The CPC will also request to review and provide feedback to the crowd management policy and training. In addition, the CPC will request that SPD suspend its use of blast balls until after the SPD and community discuss these issues and next steps.

Moved, seconded, and passed (8-0-0): "To approve sending a letter to SPD requesting suspension of the use of blast balls pending a public review."

DOJ and Monitor Update

The DOJ is reviewing the City's filing regarding the accountability structure and is expecting to file a response in two weeks. Their filing is due May 24th. They are also reviewing the Monitor's Draft 4th Year Monitoring Plan.

The Monitor is also reviewing the City's accountability structure filing. They look forward to reviewing the DOJ and CPC's response. The Monitor is meeting with the DOJ and the City about the draft 4th Year Monitoring Plan.

ACCOUNTABILITY WORKGROUP

Accountability Legislation Process Update – The City described the CPC as acting somewhat outside of its scope per its filing to the court. The CPC believes it has been acting appropriately per the MOU. The Commission is also concerned about the length of time it may take the court to act.

Draft 4th Year Monitoring Plan – The Monitor requested comment from the CPC regarding the draft 4th Year Monitoring Plan. The CPC believes that the Monitoring Plan should not add new policies requiring Court approval that were not originally in the MOU and Settlement Agreement. There were other policies that are included and that CPC has provided feedback and yet the Monitoring Plan does not include the CPC’s involvement. Those policy areas where the CPC has provided comments and feedback to are bias-free policing, stops and detentions, use of force, and the OPA manual. The Commission believes it should continue to have a responsibility for commenting on those policies. The Commission must also have sufficient time to review the policies in order to provide thoughtful recommendations. While there is no explicit role identified for CPC input to areas in training, the CPC will request to continue to partner with SPD to provide comments and feedback in certain areas.

The Commission has significant concerns regarding the Monitor’s community survey methodology and would like to work with the Monitoring Team to improve it.

Reappointment of OPA Director and OPA Auditor – Staff has interviewed the OPA Auditor and is scheduling an interview with the OPA Director during the week of May 23rd. Staff and the workgroup will draft comments and feedback for the CPC to review and approve by June 8th.

Moved, seconded, and passed (7-0-1): “To approve sending a letter to the Monitor with feedback to the Monitoring Plan.”

Moved, seconded, and passed (8-0-0): “To approve messaging to media and community regarding the accountability process and filings.”

OTHER BUSINESS

Che Taylor Community Meetings – Staff and Commissioners have been attending the weekly Che Taylor community meetings. The Taylor family invited a small contingent of staff and commissioners to their home for dinner to discuss the CPC’s work and how it can support the community needs. Andre Taylor noted that a key challenge for the CPC is informing the community about what’s going on.

CPC photo session – The CPC will have a group photo and headshots taken at the end of its next CPC meeting May 25th. The pictures will be used to update the CPC website.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

- Staff will convene a meeting with the community that participated in the Building Safe Communities meeting to discuss next steps.
- Staff will follow-up with SPD regarding how it shares information with the Fusion Center and other federal agencies.
- Staff will send a reminder to commissioners regarding the Pride parade.
- Staff will send community engagement sign-up sheet to commissioners.
- Staff will set up a meeting with the DOJ to meet with CPC on Monday, May 23rd.
- The Accountability Legislation Steering Committee will draft the CPC filing and staff will send it to all commissioners.