

Community Police Commission (CPC)

April 3, 2024, 9:00 am In-Person & Via WebEx Conference Call

- I. **Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**
- II. **Take Attendance**

CPC Attendees: Rev. Patricia Hunter, Lars W. Erickson, Philip J. Sanchez, Suzette Dickerson, Lynne Wilson, Raven Nicole Tyler, Rev. Harriett Walden, Joel Merkel, Le'Jayah Washington, Mark Mullens, Anthony Gaedcke, Tascha Johnson,

CPC Absences: Jeremy Wood, Erica Newman

CPC Staff: Cali Ellis, Felicia Cross, Chloe Tang, Emma Shepard, Dani Sullivan, Jessica Phares, Cameron Runyan

- III. **Review Agenda & Minutes**

Action: Motion to approve the 4/3/24 meeting agenda

Moved: Yes

Seconded: Yes

Approved by voice vote.

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

Action: Motion to approve the minutes from 3/20/24

Moved: Yes

Seconded: Yes

Approved by voice vote.

Opposed: 0

Abstentions: 0

- IV. **Community Police Commission Updates**

➤ **Co-Chair Updates**

- Thank all for discussion re: CPC input into SPD's surveillance pilot program. CPC statement was finalized and shared with city. After sending out, we received a

number of thank yous. Mayor's office said they'd be able to answer all of our recommendations.

- Reports of tentative agreement on SPOG contract and press inquiries. Co-chairs haven't seen contract but heard reports of retroactive pay item within it, and are watching it very closely

➤ **Executive Director Updates**

- Welcome back Community Engagement Director Felicia Cross, and CE staff - Mergitu Argo and Jo-Nathan Thomas.
- Thank you to those who responded to Doodle poll for open public meetings act lunch and learn with city attorney's office. Great chance to meet in person and learn about the act on Wed - 4/24. It's downtown, and reimbursement for parking or transportation will be provided, as well as lunch.
- Met with city councilmembers to share information about CPC and its priorities. They are very enthusiastic about our work.
- Update on ongoing work on SPD's emergency vehicle operations policy- Met with accountability partners and SPD policy staff to provide input on this policy based on conversation with Indian American (on 1/17) and other community members. It is a policy of great concern to them, and SPD has already suggested preliminary changes to their existing policy. We want to make sure SPD considers the feedback on this policy that comes directly from the community. I will be sharing a draft of that feedback based on the 1/17 meetings with community members before sending it to SPD for consideration as part of their policy review process by late April.
- Request for commissioners to assist in hiring CPC staff by being part of an interview panel.

➤ **Community Engagement Update**

- Felicia Cross didn't have much to update as they have just returned from being away for several months.
- Chloe Tang presented a slideshow of her community engagement from the last two weeks. She met CM Morales at transit safety town hall meeting and learned that community members are enthusiastic about many SDOT technologies that are similar to what SPD put out, but the members feel more positive about SDOT's rolling out of these technologies (video analytics, touchless pedestrian push buttons, smart tech).
- SPD African American Community Advisory Council members expressed concern that there is very little support and mental health resources for kids when preparing for, and right after a school shooting. How can we help them feel safe returning to school?
- Shared talking points and information about drug overdose awareness and actions, around reducing gun violence, repeated break-ins, and what SPD is doing to build trust in community-police relations.

- **Communications Update**
 - Released the Monday co-chair opinion statement on police accountability in the forthcoming contract. There was high engagement from public and media. Statement to be released once we know the finer details in the contract.
 - Still working on reviving the newsletter. Look for it in the coming weeks.
 - Annual report – writing a strategic plan (to produce by mid-summer to share in August annual meeting).
 - Request to follow CPC on all social medias – SEACPC on X, LinkedIn, Facebook. Instagram coming next. Also present in Facts newspaper

- **Commissioner’s Workgroup Updates**
 - **Community Engagement**
 - CE Workgroup – Began sharing our visions for the workgroup, about events, SPOG contract.
 - Continue to interface with Indian American community.
 - CPC has been asked to give feedback on furnishings for SPD’s breakrooms.

 - **Police Practices**
 - CM Johnson – last Friday they met with OIG about developing metrics for surveillance strategies, and making sure they are applicable to each technology and how they interact with each other as a whole.

- **Behavioral Health**
 - CM Erickson has met with small business owners about vandalism and break-ins. It is small business owner’s number one issue. Then behavioral health/public safety issues.
 - Takeaway from CARE – there are a few treatment options, which is creating a dire situation in the areas that CARE serves.
 - There’s been a significant increase in obstructive behavior to SFD. There is a dispute between SPD and SFD unions about how to respond to calls like drug overdoses where SPD may not be the appropriate responders, including whether or not patrol officers should be trained in administering Narcan.

V. **Staff Department Updates**

- **City Council**
 - To fill vacancy – Cali and Brent to involve Indigenous Advisory Council and Seattle Indian Services Commission to assure representation in CPC.
 - Interested in why and when SPD is responding with speed in which cases, especially those related to SFD.

- **Mayor’s Office**
 - Public comment period for tech-assisted crime prevention is extended to 4/12. Should have more info by next meeting.

- **Monitoring Team**

- Mr. Ward reminded us that a memo was filed on Seattle court order progress, that updates be given on the status of milestones on the Seattle Consent Decree Agreement on sustained compliance.
- **Office of Police Accountability (OPA)**
 - We have a new civilian investigator
- **Office of Inspector General (OIG)**
 - Introduction by Christine Berbelis and team/roles breakdown
 - Completed first assessment (use of force) in Feb.
 - Next project is crisis intervention assessment, and will be looking at next assessments where the monitor left off
 - Hired communications and CE specialist - Broderick Averly

VI. **I-2113 and SPD Pursuit Policy**

- Mr. Brian Maxey
 - SPD's policy was more restrictive than state law before the state law changed.
 - I-2113 reduced the threshold for initiating a pursuit from "probable cause" to "reasonable suspicion". Which is a slightly lower threshold. This is sole change.
 - No threshold for type of crime you can pursue for in new state law. SPD is maintaining their policy on certain types of crime they won't pursue for – DUIs, etc.
- CM Merkel asked – when police pursuit state law was adopted in 2021, when did SPD update its policy to be consistent with state law?
 - In 2/21, in response to state law change
 - Discussion on PIT maneuver training – SWAT almost solely does this.
 - Stop sticks can be deployed by all officers as they receive training on this. This is the main plan in place when pursuit is approved to continue.
 - Supervisor must approve continuation of pursuit
 - When there are 2 pursuing officers, the second vehicle has responsibility to update, so the primary pursuer can mainly focus on pursuit
 - Discussions regarding SFD and SPD's unions regarding responding to 911 calls

VII. **Discussion: SPD Hiring and Recruiting**

- Cali Ellis highlighted that in the ordinance the CPC has authority and responsibility regarding SPD hiring accountability.
- From CPC's perspective, the SPOG contract is about accountability. From SPD's perspective, it's about recruitment and retention.
- Questions to explore in next meeting with Andrea Scheele – what are the values that the community wants in its officer recruits? What are the values it wants in how it prioritizes retaining officers/what are the types of thresholds ppl should meet before becoming officers/what is the hiring process?

- Rev. Walden spoke with a few young men about their challenging experiences trying to get hired after passing the test. Mark Mullins requested these young men be referred to him to chat about his experiences with testing and recruitment.
- Brian Maxey – there are some failure points in recruitment process – polygraph standards for example, are higher than most. Also, Chief has been pushing for DACA residents to be included in eligibility.
- CM Johnson asks if lived experience could be a metric
- Discussion around test standards, possible biases, George Floyd impact, and how the culture in SPD impacts recruitment and retention.
- Movement to extend meeting to 10:40am
- No objections
- Discussion around what SPD and Mayor’s office is doing to support test-takers before, during, and after.
- Action item – please connect with your communities and come prepared to talk about what you would like to see asked and explored as part of the recruitment retention.

VIII. **Adjourn**