



POLICE REVIEW & ADVISORY BOARD

A Department of the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts

Minutes from the Meeting of October 27, 2021

Board Members present: Gina LaRoche, Franziskus Lepionka, Lucy Murray-Brown (acting chair), Beverly Sealey

City Staff present: Executive Director Brian Corr, Project Coordinator Crystal Rosa; CPD Director of Professional Standards and Training and Certification Unit James Mulcahy, Sergeant Michael LeVecque

Acting Chair Lucy Murray-Brown called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public.

Review and Approval of Minutes

On a motion from Board Member LaRoche, seconded by Board Member Sealey, the Board approved the minutes of September 22, 2021, with Board Members Lepionka, and Murray-Brown voting in favor and Board Member Sealey abstaining.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Corr asked the Board for suggestions about where to make publicly available new laminated cards informing people how they can file a complaint, make a compliment, or offer feedback about the Cambridge Police Department. The following locations were suggested:

- Cambridge Youth Centers
- Libraries
- Council on Aging
- At outreach events for Participatory Budgeting

ED Corr discussed the importance of adhering to the Open Meeting Law and asked Board Members about availability to attend a training on the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law and the Board's establishing ordinance and rules and regulations. After receiving responses, he indicated that he would confer with the Law Department to find a date that works for all.

Professional Standards Unit Report

Director Mulcahy shared updates from the Cambridge Police Department (CPD):

- CPD is currently training its officers on new regulations on Use of Force jointly issued by the Municipal Police Training Commission (MPTC) and the Peace Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST) as required by the Massachusetts Police Reform Law. These regulations will go into effect on December 1, 2021 and all CPD officers are required to take the three-hour MPTC online training on Use of Force and Deescalation by that date.
- As required by the Police Reform Law, CPD will submit the full internal affairs history of each officer to POST by December 31, 2021.

- In October and November, all CPD officers are receiving training on less-than-lethal Use of Force, and will have additional training on firearms using the Middlesex Sheriff's Office's mobile facility with "simunitions" (simulated munitions) for use of lethal force training.
- CPD has a new scenario-based simulator that allows officers to practice different levels of force and de-escalation techniques, and all officers will go through that training over a three-month period as part of their annual certification.
- CPD's Cadet Program is continuing with a new cadet class: four individuals (all Cantabrigians) will be sworn in on November 19 and PSU is conducting background investigations in advance of the next Cambridge Police Academy class starting in January. The cadet program is designed to bring in a diverse set of local people who work full time with CPD and gain experience. Then, they are placed at the top of the civil service list and can enter the police academy if they pass the civil service exam and do not have issues arising from their background checks that would disqualify them. This program has already resulted in new CPD officers who were selected from the civil service list and enrolled in the Cambridge Police Academy.

Consideration of Complaints Pending before the Board and Adjournment

Board Member Murray-Brown moved that the Board enter executive session pursuant to Section 21(a)(1) of the Mass. Open Meeting Law to discuss complaints CC 2021-001, and CC-2021-002 pending before the Board. The motion was seconded by Board Member La Roche and approved by a unanimous roll call vote. The Board entered executive session at 6:34 p.m. and adjourned the meeting from executive session at 7:48 p.m.

Documents Used During the Meeting

- Police Review & Advisory Board Minutes of September 22, 2021