

City of Tacoma

Community's Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 14, 2023

Hybrid Meeting

6:00 p.m.

The CPAC is comprised of Chair Allen McKenzie, Vice Chair Shayna Raphael, and Committee Members Stephen Hagberg, Jabari Hampton, Louis Cooper, Jeffrey Sargent, Angela Mealing, Ralette Churchill, Esther Evans

Members Present: Allen McKenzie, Stephen Hagberg, Angela Mealing, Shayna Raphael, Ralette Churchwell, Jabari Hampton, Jeffrey Sargent

Members Absent: Louis Cooper, Ralette Churchill (Note: Andrew Nguyen has resigned)

Staff Present: Staff Liaison Ted Richardson, Staff Liaison Chelsea Talbert, Lieutenant GJ Roberts, TPD Chief of Staff Curtis Hairston

Staff Absent: Staff Liaison Jacques Colon, Captain Gretchen Aguirre

Called to order at 6:03pm

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the agenda for the CPAC meeting held on August 14, 2023

Passed at 6:03

Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the July 10, 2023 CPAC meeting.

Motion passed at 6:03

Briefing Items

City Reports

City Manager's Office

- 6:04 Ted shared the CPAC recruitment season is beginning. There will be interviews in November at Community Vitality and Safety Committee meeting. The youth seat as well as the District 1 seat are open. Sept 6 – September 24 will be the application period and then the committee will forward to applications to CVS. Shayna added that her District 2 seat is open.
- Allen stated that 5 members is a quorum and to please keep communications to 4 members or fewer.

Tacoma Police Department

6:07 – Lt GJ Roberts said there are follow up items from a June meeting and offered to share an update. He will send procedures which highlight the discretion officers are allowed and highlighted there are other circumstances like call volume. GJ will have a legal advisor attend in September to go into detail on things like extreme risk protection orders. GJ said sometimes officers make mistakes on police reports and they do their best to fix them as soon as possible.

Presentations and Discussions

- 6:18 Whitney Wilkins from SAGE Investment Group gave a presentation on housing developments on Hosmer.
- The former Econolodge will now be Safe Harbor Apartments and the property will be open in September. There will be a 109 apartments and it used to be high nuisance property as identified by TPD.
- Whitney shared there will be a gate with a code that will be given to guests of the hotel behind the property as well as Safe Harbor Apartments. Whitney said TPD will still be involved in tracking and responding to crime in the area. There will be on-site management and someone who works there full time on site. They are working on an expanded security model for Hosmer which will be offered to other businesses in the Hosmer area in early 2024.
- They have two other properties on Hosmer they are converting into apartments and are under contract for the purchase of Motel 6 and are looking at other properties including Home Towne Suites.
- Whitney said they typically sell locations 3 5 years after purchase and have had conversations to put on open market, sell to Tacoma Housing Authority, or Puyallup Tribe in the future. They take vouchers from Tacoma Housing Authority and Veterans Affairs. In Fife, apartments are \$1275 a month with utilities and internet included.
- Sage Investments is talking to Veteran Affairs, Tacoma Housing Authority, and Puyallup Tribe because that is where the primary need is in Tacoma and they realized they could almost entirely meet the need for housing by working with these 3 partners.
- Safe Harbor will have meeting rooms and want to have Safe Streets meetings for residents. They also reinitiated the Hosmer Business Association meetings. The goal is to turn Hosmer into an informal business improvement area and a business district.
- Sage has hired a security company called Falcon that will work with TPD as partners. Falcon will have authority over the properties but will not be patrolling Hosmer other than driving between properties.

Public Comment

• 7:13 PM– Allen opened the floor for public comment. No member of the public wished to speak.

2022 End of Year Complaints Report

- 7:14 PM Lt GJ Roberts shared the end of the year statistics from 2022. Community members can participate in civilian review board for use of deadly force and can contact Tacoma Human Resources for more information. There has been a downward trend in complaints.
- Esther asked if calls went down because of staffing increases. GJ said it may be because they started screening calls better and body-worn cameras. Chief Hairston said officers have been more courteous. Shayna said TPD is still short and does not have the staffing capacity. Allen senses that there has been a culture shift and positive changes that come with new leadership.
- 7:31 PM Shayna asked GJ about two missing complaints. GJ said CPAC will see final findings. Shayna clarified they do have findings but are not reflected in the list. GJ said it may be that the findings are reflected on the list but not attached to a number. Allen asked to continue this offline.

Oversight Subcommittee

• 7:40 – Allen shared that the subcommittee has been meeting with Michelle to get the labor negotiation process in order. The initial stages of bargaining have begun, and the oversight proposal is part of that. The subcommittee has clarified recommendations with Michelle and the subcommittee is learning a lot from Michelle.

Policy Subcommittee

• 7:42 - They had a great meeting and are focused on officer wellness and public recording of officers on the street.

Outreach Subcommittee

• 7:44 - The subcommittee did not meet but they did review the brochure to check that all the links work and clean up a couple typos.

Subcommittee Membership:

- Oversight Subcommittee: Louis Cooper, Shayna Raphael, Allen McKenzie, Ralette Churchill
- Outreach Subcommittee: Esther Evans, Jeffrey Sargent, Angela Mealing
- Policy Subcommittee: Jabari Hampton, Stephen Hagberg, Allen McKenzie, Ralette Churchill

Closing Remarks

- Ted shared upcoming important dates: September 12 noon Study Session presentation: Homeless Services and Strategy Update; September 19 noon Study Session presentation: Alternative Response Quarterly Update; November 9 at 4:30pm CVS meeting: CPAC annual interviews
- Chief Hairston shared that TPD received 184 applications for the Community Service Officer position. They are going to hire 10 and have 11 officers total. They are ahead of schedule, and they will be on the streets working starting in March 2024. They will help with traffic, staff substations to take reports, and other duties to free up commissioned officers.

Public Comment

- 7:49 Allen opened the floor for public comment.
- 7:49 -Tim Fairley asked if community services officers will be deployed in the Hosmer area. Chief Hairston said that they will be all around Tacoma and that commissioned officers will be responding to anything that has a suspect or requires a police response. Community service officers will fill in the gaps but will not be responding directly to crime. Tim also filed a positive impact report to help increase police reports.
- 7:54 Venus shared that prior to COVID, community members helped staff substations. Chief Hairston said Chief Moore is looking at that as we speak and plans to bring back community volunteers at sub stations.

Adjournment

Motion: CM Raphael

Second: CM Hagberg

Motion passed 7:56pm

Allen McKenzie

Allen McKenzie, Chair

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Chelsea Talbert, Staff Liaison