



City of Tacoma

Community's Police Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 9, 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, Jeffrey Sargent, Louis Cooper, Esther Evans, Ralette Churchwell

Members Absent: Jabari Hampton

Staff Present: Staff Liaison Ted Richardson, Staff Liaison Chelsea Talbert, Lieutenant GJ Roberts, Gordon Stark, Staff Liaison Jacques Colon

Staff Absent: TPD Chief of Staff Curtis Hairston, Captain Gretchen Aguirre

Called to order at 6:01pm

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the agenda for the CPAC meeting on October 9, 2023

Passed at 6:02

Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the September 11, 2023 CPAC meeting.

Motion passed at 6:02

Briefing Items

City Reports

City Manager's Office

- 6:03 – Ted shared that the recruitment for CPAC has closed except for youth seats which closes on Sunday. 11 applicants will move forward to interviews on November 9 at 4:30 at the Community Vitality and Safety Committee. It can be viewed using this link: www.zoom.us/j/85961604917 Passcode: 614650

Tacoma Police Department

- 6:05 – Lt. GJ Roberts thanks community members for attending a deadly force meeting. Rita Harrington and Scott Welsh volunteered are appreciated for volunteering and serving their community.

Presentations and Discussions

- 6:05 – Officer Wellness and Cordico App Presentation
- TPD Lt Gordon Stark shared that the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police chiefs purchased an app called Cordico. The app was developed to give officers resources at their fingertips. It is free for all agencies in the state of Washington. No personal information is collected and it helps with confidentiality. There are anonymous self-assessments for things like substance use disorder, compassion fatigue, anger, etc. There is also fitness for first responders as well as nutrition and other resources. The app has vetted therapists with law enforcement experience and includes maps and bios. The app is available to spouses and retired law enforcement.
- Jeffrey asked about providers and their locations with the hope that a focus on local resources and providers will provide a greater experience for officers and boost our local providers.
- Allen shared gratitude and asked if law enforcement officers are able to participate in services during work hours. Gordon shared they cannot participate during work hours, but they haven't had issues with folks accessing services because of a lack of availability.
- Gordon shared that they also have a peer support group which lends a supportive shoulder.
- The TPD psychiatrist sits in on tactical debriefs for traumatic events. They do not sit in on disciplinary issues but are available to consult.

- 6:28 - Review of Policy Subcommittee Discussion on Use of Drones
- The Policy Subcommittee wanted to continue their conversation about drones with the recognition that this was not in response to any TPD policy but was sparked by NYPD use of drones for enforcement with parties. Stephen walked the committee through a power point presentation. The subcommittee has concerns about the 4th Amendment, right to privacy, unlawful tracking of individuals, etc. Tacoma has a drone use ordinance for private citizens. The subcommittee does not have a formal recommendation and saw this as a good topic to report out to the full committee for discussion.
- The committee discussed concerns with drones and emphasized the importance of having community members weigh in and look at the policy very closely before anything is passed. Drones can be deadly, carry weapons, and can be used to gather information

- Ralette shared that TPD is using stingrays (imitation cell tower) and they had been using it for 8 years (2008 – 2014 before the information was made public) before the public found out. Once the public found out, they were sued and there were challenges with data and information transparency. There is only one stingray used in Washington and it's in the area where we have the most people of color. Ralette shared that the stingrays can't differentiate between a suspect and the general public which is concerning. Jeffrey clarified that they can't listen in on phone conversations and he has some experience with using stingrays in Iraq.
- Jeffrey recommended connecting with TPD to have them answer questions. Allen shared some of the exceptions to warrants. Louis concurred that information sooner rather than later would be good.
- Lt. Gary Roberts stated that TPD does have drones and shared the procedures which outline how drones are used. He also stated it is mainly used for collecting evidence." e.
- Ralette asked if community members can still record police interactions and committee members recalled a previous meeting which affirmed that community members can record police as long as they are not interfering with the duties of the officer.
- The committee agreed to move the discussion forward and invite the subject matter expert to a future meeting.

Public Comment

- 7:04 – Allen opened the floor for public comment.
- Cheryl shared that drones could be helpful for a lot of things like illegal dumping and would like to learn more about the cons.
- 7:07 – Allen closed public comment

Complaints Review

- 7:07 – Allen shared that there are not new complaints to review

Policy Subcommittee

- 7:07 – Stephen shared he didn't have anything to add after the drone discussion

Oversight Subcommittee

- 7:08 – Louis and Shayna agreed to ask Michelle for an update. Louis had a conversation with the Mayor about the recommendation and would like to have a conversation with Ted, Shayna, and Allen prior to speaking any further.

Outreach Subcommittee

- 7:10 – The Outreach Subcommittee attended the citizen's academy and received at least one applicant. Jeffrey encouraged all members to be advocates for CPAC and keep recruiting for the youth seat which closes on October 15.

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

- 7:13 – Community Vitality and Safety will be holding interviews on November 9 at 4:30 for new CPAC members. It can be viewed using this link: www.zoom.us/j/85961604917 Passcode: 614650. November 21st at noon will be an update at study session about the violent crime reduction plan. Allen appreciated seeing the staffing numbers and was encouraged to see the level of interest.

Public Comment

- 7:16 – Allen opened the floor for public comment and closed it when there were not any members of the public wishing to speak.
- 7:19 – Ralette asked about the Community Safety Action Strategy. Chelsea shared that timelines have shifted, and public engagement will begin early next year. Gabe will present at an upcoming meeting about the strategy.

Adjournment

Motion: Louis Cooper

Second: Shayna Raphael

Motion passed 7:19m

Allen McKenzie

Allen McKenzie, Chair

Chelsea Talbert

Chelsea Talbert, Staff Liaison