



POLICE COMMISSIONERS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Brookline Town Hall
333 Washington Street
Brookline, MA 02445

Judith Fabricant, Chair
Karen Ambrose
Scott Ananian
Kimberley Richardson
Kristan Singleton
Paul Yee
Ronald Wilkinson

Town of Brookline Police Commissioners Advisory Committee

Date: 04/24/2023 Start Time: 7:00 PM

Actual Start: 7:00 PM End: 8:26 PM

Meeting held via ZoomGov

Board Members Present: Judith Fabricant, Chair, Scott Ananian, Kimberley Richardson, Ronald Wilkinson, Paul Yee

Board Members Absent: Karen Ambrose

PCAC Staff Present: DS Paul Campbell, Ann Hess Braga, Michael Downey, Sarah Kaplan

I. Call to Order 7:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order and a reminder was issued that meetings are being recorded.

II. Review of Public Hearing Transcript

In lieu of minutes, the PCAC voted to approve the transcript of the March 27, 2023 public hearing with the caveat that the transcript is a product of voice recognition technology and accordingly reflects errors in transcription, so it should be read in conjunction with the video recording.

Vote to Approve Recording Transcript from the March 27, 2023 public hearing:

Moved by Wilkinson. Seconded by Ananian.

AYE: Kristan Singleton, Judith Fabricant, Kimberly Richardson, Paul Yee, Ronald Wilkinson

III. Public Comment Period

No Comments.

IV. Proposed Changes to Policy Manual Regarding Responding to Individuals with Mental Illness

Ron Wilkinson presented a revised policy draft, taking into account the Committee's discussion in prior meetings. Significant changes include:

- Adds a section to ensure the dispatch center solicits detailed information to determine if a police response is warranted;
- Adjustments to language regarding training requirements; and

- Describes the responsibility of officers to coordinate with the PD's affiliated clinician to meet the needs of those with mental health issues.

The working group will continue their work, with particular focus on language regarding training requirements, and bring back a final draft for vote at the next meeting.

V. Report on Civilian Feedback Survey Responses

Two new responses received since the last report:

(1) Awful interaction with officer in front of NETA, followed by another negative interaction with an officer on the non-emergency line.

(2) While walking 1-year old to daycare, two police cruisers rolled through stop sign at intersection of Holden and Pierce Streets. The responder identified the second vehicle as Cruiser #1061.

Chair Fabricant states the PCAC should expect to hear back from Lt. Chuck Thornton, of the PD's IA Office, after he has had time to review negative responses to the survey.

The Committee then discussed ways in which it can increase public awareness of the civilian feedback survey. Sarah Kaplan indicated that she has notified non-profits, religious groups, and other organizations in the community. CDICR needs additional funding to translate the survey into other languages.

Public Comment

Bonnie Bastien: Ms. Bastien commented to support the Committee's decision not to take action on the policy regarding police response to individuals with mental illness, stating it is too important to finalize without having a full and thorough understanding.

VI. Working Group Updates

Equipment Violation Policy and Postcard Notice

Paul Yee has been in contact with DS Michael Murphy, who has been in contact with the City of Philadelphia given their experience with writing citations for equipment violations, in lieu of conducting motor vehicle stops. The Mayor of Philadelphia issued an executive order to initiate that practice. DS Murphy believes the Select Board will need to act before a similar practice can begin in Brookline. On the other hand, Paul Yee thinks it is a matter of discretion for the PD and its officers to decide.

The Committee will continue the discussion at the next meeting.

Public Comment

Perry Grossman: There is a new Vulnerable User's law in Massachusetts, regulating bicyclists and skateboarders, which may be relevant to this discussion.

Juvenile Operations

Kristan and Kimberley have presented a set of recommendations to PD staff. They hope to have a redlined policy draft to present to the Committee at the next meeting.

Investigatory Stop and Frisk/Threshold Inquiry

Have not met since the last meeting.

VII. Future Meetings – In Person or Hybrid?

Chair Fabricant expressed her preference for in person meetings. Kristan Singleton, while also preferring in person meetings, recommended the hybrid approach given the difficulty for some to attend in person. Ron Wilkinson agreed with Kristan's approach. Scott Ananian suggested remote meetings, with consideration for in person meetings for important events, or quarterly. Paul Yee favors hybrid meetings. He also recommended having a backup plan for the in person group given the technical difficulties experienced at the public hearing.

VIII. Next Meeting – May 22, 2023

Chair Fabricant solicited a motion to decide if the next meeting would be held in person or remotely.

Moved by Wilkinson, to hold the meeting remotely. Seconded by Ananian.

AYE: Kristan Singleton, Judith Fabricant, Paul Yee, Ronald Wilkinson, Scott Ananian

IV. Vote to Adjourn

8:26p.m.

On a motion duly seconded, the Police Commissioners Advisory Committee (PCAC) voted by roll call to adjourn.

Moved by Singleton. Seconded by Ananian.

AYE: Ronald Wilkinson, Paul Yee, Scott Ananian, Kristan Singleton, Judith Fabricant

VOTES:

- **Vote to adjourn at 8:31PM. Moved by Singleton, Seconded by Ananian. Approved 5-0.**

DOCUMENTS PREPARED:

April 2023 Monthly Report on Civilian Feedback Survey

Meeting Agenda

Draft RE: Responding to Individuals with Mental Illness

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is the PCAC Public Hearing scheduled for May22, 2023 at 7:00PM.

The above minutes are draft until approved by the Committee.

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

/s/Michael Downey
Staff, For the Committee

For the Committee, Judith Fabricant, Chair

Date