

**POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**March 19, 2024**

**POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING - DRAFT**  
**MARCH 19, 2024**

**POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD:** Chair, Leo Duque, Co-chair Christina Hagestad, Gwendolyn Evans, Dan Maguire, Ta-Tanisha Redditta (Advisor) and Jody Kamon (Advisor).

**Absent:** Guillamue Teganyi and Arthur Bergeron

**STAFF:** Anthony Jackson-Miller (Community Affairs Liaison-Essex Police Department)

**ADMINISTRATION:** Ron Hoague (Police Chief); Lt. Rob Kissinger, (EPD)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** None.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Chair Leo Duque called the meeting to order at 6:06pm.*

**2. AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES**

No additions or changes to the Agenda.

**3. AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Agenda Approved. Minutes from February 20, 2024 were approved.*

**4. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

*No members of the public were heard.*

**5. BUSINESS ITEMS**

*a. Lt. Rob Kissinger addressed the board about the Domestic Violence Policy, a new statewide policy, involving law enforcement or individuals in positions of power. The Chief had shared the policy with the board at the last meeting. The board learned that although EPD already has it's own policy related to domestic violence and this new statewide policy would be an addition, addressing a specific need. The Chief, anticipating its adoption, discussed what additional training might be necessary to employ the "checks and balances" system envisioned by the policy.*

*The board learned that domestic violence victims' names and other identifying information are not released to the public and EPD's policy generally has a focus on "civilian victims". The board inquired about EPD's social media policy. Specifically, the publishing of citizen's names accused of criminal offences on different social media platforms. A discussion ensued about how decisions are made about when and what to post to social media. It was learned that although EPD has no social media policy one is in the works and should be forthcoming. The board recognized the situational tension between the privacy of citizens and the public safety - as well as the freedom of speech.*

*b. Work Plan 2024 – follow up.*

*The board continued to develop its work plan for 2024. The board agreed that PCAB is the official moniker as opposed to just CAB. That it more accurately reflects our mission. Board chair Leo Duque shared his Town Meeting Showcase experience and offered some insight as to how we might proceed going forward next year. “Getting the word out” as Anthony Jackson-Miller continued to share his rolodex in a pro-social victim centered way.*

*In short:*

- It was learned the board has secured a coveted place on the Town’s website, independent of the EPD space.*
- The Essex Reporter has requested an interview, and it was determined that Chair Leo Duque and Advisor Jody Kamon would oblige.*
- Gwendolyn Evans was encouraged to continue her Blog about PCAB and noted her admission into the next class of the Citizen’s Academy.*
- The board also revisited the idea of a community survey seeking feedback relative to the board’s mission.*

*c. The board was updated on the respective Town and City ongoing processes to replace the two open seats. The board discussed those with one-year appointments are up for reappointment or exit. Gwendolyn Evans, who was appointed for a one-year term, indicated an interest in reapplying. The board also determined it would revote Chair, Cochair and Secretary each year.*

#### **6. CONFIRMATION OF TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETINGS AGENDA**

*The board will continue its Work Plan as well as to continue to monitor the efforts to fill the two empty seats.*

#### **7. ADJOURN**

*A motion to adjourn was made and unanimously seconded by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Maguire  
CAB Secretary