

POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
December 19, 2023

POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING - Approved
DECEMBER 19, 2023

POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD: *Gwendolyn Evans, Leo Duque, Christina Hagestad, Dan Maguire, Jody Kamon (Advisor).*

Absent: Guillamue Teganyi, Arthur Bergeron, Ta-Tanisha Redditta (Advisor)

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

ADMINISTRATION: *Ron Hoague (Police Chief)*

OTHERS PRESENT: *Sgt. Michael Chistolini, EPD and Cpl. Ryon Sorrell, EPD.*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Leo Duque called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Agenda Approved. Minutes from the October 17, 2023 and November 23, 2023 approved.

4. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

No members of the public were heard.

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Sgt. Michael Chistolini, a member of the EPD Tactical Team and Cpl. Ryon Sorrell, a use of force instructor with the Essex Police Department presented the board with information about use of force starting with the definition of "force". Force was defined as "physical coercion".

The Use of Force policy was explored in some detail in the context of real-life scenarios. The board learned that the policy and practice related to the use of force was significantly updated in 2020 and 2021, notably in the aftermath of the George Floyd homicide. The presentation included statistics that were shared with the board relative to use of force incidents. All incidents are tracked and recorded. Additionally, the board heard in detail about training protocols and the ladder of force as it relates to escalation and de-escalation as well as the scenarios where the Tactical Team is employed.

b. Police Community Advisory Board – Work Plan for 2024.

The board briefly discussed development of a work plan for 2024. In this context, the board was reminded of its mission and goals: the help increase the EPD's understanding of community needs and concerns related to public safety and to ensure the voices and needs of systemically

marginalized, disenfranchised, and oppressed members of the community are heard with regard to public safety. To reach those goals the board will facilitate communication between the community and the EPD, help increase EPD's understanding of community needs and concerns related to public safety, and provide feedback and support to the EPD on strategies and policy, especially around issues of equity.

c. Attendance Expectations

Attendance expectations were again discussed by the board. Christina Hagestad advised the recent vacancy has been posted by the City. In the meantime, despite being down at least one member, the number remains at 4 members to achieve a quorum.

6. CONFIRMATION OF TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETINGS AGENDA

Anthony Jackson-Miller advised the next meeting will include further discussion relative to the board's Work Plan for 2024.

7. ADJOURN

Christina Hagestad made a motion to adjourn which was unanimously seconded by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Maguire
CAB Secretary