



Police Review Commission

POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Wednesday, June 9, 2010
7:00 P.M.**

**South Berkeley Senior Center
2939 Ellis Street, Berkeley**

1. CALL TO ORDER BY COMMISSIONER MICHAEL SHERMAN AT 7:00 P.M. ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE:

Present: Acting Chairperson Michael Sherman
Commissioner Kamau Edwards
Commissioner Vonnie Gurgin
Commissioner Kiran Shenoy
Commissioner William White

Absent: Chairperson George Perezvelez, Vice Chair Russell Bloom, Commissioner Sherry Smith, and Commissioner Jonathan Huang

PRC Staff: Victoria Urbi, PRC Officer
Mary Matambanadzo, Administrative Support

BPD Staff: Chief Meehan, Captain Harris, Acting Captain Morizono, Sergeant Wilson, Sergeant Schofield, and Officer Bartalini

2. ORDER OF AGENDA

No changes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: May 26, 2010

Motion to approve minutes. M/S/C (Gurgin/Shenoy) Motion carried.

Ayes: Edwards, Gurgin, Shenoy, Sherman, and White.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Bloom, Huang, Perezvelez, and Smith.



5. NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy Complaint – Case #2257 filed by Michael Ward

1. Complainant will discuss policy issue

Mr. Ward has filed five misconduct complaints with the PRC in addition to this policy complaint. Mr. Ward has had multiple contacts with BPD officers during the last few months. Mr. Ward believes that BPD officers racially profile him, as well as other young African-Americans, in the west and south communities of Berkeley. Mr. Ward recommended training for BPD employees on improved communication with diverse populations.

2. Commission discussion/action

Commissioners questioned Mr. Ward on his encounters with BPD. Commissioners also questioned BPD on how patrol officers are trained. Six months ago, all officers were trained on “Diversity”, which was two-hours, DVD-based and POST-mandated (Peace Officers Standards and Training). BPD officers are mandated to undergo Racial Profiling training every five years and Communication every two years. A Racial Profiling training at the command level is scheduled on August 17-18, 2010. BPD is in the process of drafting a policy addressing racial profiling.

Motion to postpone policy complaint #2257 until after Mr. Ward’s cases are heard and the Chief provides an update on the Racial Profiling training and new policy. M/S/C (White/Edwards) Motion carried.

Ayes: Edwards, Gurgin, Shenoy, Sherman, and White.

Noes: None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** Bloom, Huang, Perezvelez, and Smith.

6. BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

A. Chief’s report

1. Presentation on crime rate moved to the next meeting on June 23, 2010

2. Recruitment Update: Minority Recruitment Plan presented by Acting Captain Morizono

In 2000, minority officers constituted 45% of BPD’s workforce. Currently, minority officers make up 41% of the workforce. Overall, there has been a decline in the composition of minority officers with an increase in the number of Hispanic and Asian officers of 1% and 2%, respectively. The number of African-American officers has declined by 7%. BPD has established a broad goal of increasing the diversity of the applicant pool in which more qualified minority and non-minority candidates are available for selection.

BPD has outreached to its minority membership to solicit feedback, revise its brochures, and is making a concentrated effort to increase internet-based recruitment. BPD is in the process of developing a diverse pool of recruitment officers by building long-term alliances with student associations, business and professional groups, and community members. BPD seeks to develop a system to track diversity, recognize trends, and make hiring adjustments.

7. PRC OFFICER'S REPORT (For Discussion or Action)

A. Hearing update: There are none scheduled this month.

B. Status of complaints: There are 14 open cases. 1 new complaint.

C. Report on Oakland Citizens' Police Review Board's Complaint Investigator Interview Panel

Ms. Urbi was invited to be a panelist for Oakland Citizens' Police Review Board (CPRB). CPRB is filling two Investigator positions, which will take place over a period of 2 days for 25 candidates.

D. Report on the interview process of the BPD Barricaded Subject Hostage Negotiation Team

Ms. Urbi thanked BPD for the invitation to observe the interview process and presented an overview of the process to the Commission. BPD selects candidates every two years for specialized teams in critical incidents, such as hostages and barricaded suspects. Ms. Urbi attended the interview for 2 days, 3 candidates, and observed the panel conduct the interview process in a professional manner. Ms. Urbi observed the interview process for dispatchers as well.

PRC brochures were handed out to the Commission for the Juneteenth event.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS (For Discussion or Action)

A. Ordinance Subcommittee – next meeting: June 23 at 6:00 p.m.

B. Regulations Review Subcommittee – Update

Christine Daniel, Deputy City Manager, may attend the next PRC meeting on June 23, 2010 to present the City Manager's response to the Commission's recommendations.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Attached

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.