



## **Community Policing Advisory Board**

### **Minutes**

**Thursday, February 6, 2025**

*Meeting was held at the Rockville City Police Department – 2 W. Montgomery Ave, Rockville, MD 20850*

**Members Present:** Matt Perkins, Petra Pacher, Kenneth Shenge, Michael Zuckman, Scott Moore, Eric Schneider, and Robin Prather were present. Bob Ross and Rebecca Kahlenberg were absent.

**Staff Present:** Chief of Police Jason West, Police Executive Assistant Ebony Parker, and Board Liaison Marissa Valeri were present.

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Perkins conducted roll call and called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

#### **II. Motion to Approve Board Meeting Agenda**

**Motion:** to approve the February meeting agenda.

Moved by Board member Schneider, seconded by Board member Prather, unanimously approved.

#### **III. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** to approve the January 9, 2025, meeting minutes.

Moved by Board member Schneider seconded by Board member Prather, unanimously approved.

#### **IV. Community Policing Advisory Board Updates**

**Membership Update** – Chairperson Perkins welcomed new member Scott Moore to the Board. Mr. Moore introduced himself as a lifelong Maryland resident and wants to contribute to community involvement in the City of Rockville.

**Member Representative for Chief Hiring** – Chairperson Perkins reminded the Board to pick a representative for the police chief's interview panel. Mr. Perkins advised that two Board members were interested and stated there was no preference on how to pick the member. As Chairperson, Mr. Perkins picked Ms. Prather to represent the Board for the police chief's interview panel based on her seniority. Mr. Perkins also suggested that Mr. Zuckman be selected as an alternate representative if Ms. Prather

is not available. Mr. Perkins advised that he check if a youth member could participate on the interviews after inquiring if Ms. Pacher was interested being a representative as well.

## **V. RCPD Updates & Meet RCPD**

RCPD Updates – Chief West discussed ongoing work with the City Attorney’s office to update general orders, policies, and procedures within the RCPD. He advised that the department has been busy filling vacancies and promoting positions within the department. Chief west also mentioned changing the hiring process to reinstate oral board and physical assessment test for new hires. Chief West informed the Board that there was a Public Safety Day planned in June, which will include community engagement and invited the Board members to attend.

Meet RCPD – Corporal Zeighani introduced himself as the RCPD K-9 officer. He informed the Board that the K-9 program started 20 years ago within the department and explained that it is a difficult program to get into because it involves a lot of responsibility, dedication and work. Corporal Zeighani discussed the selection and vetting process to ensure the right dog is chosen. He described the training involved, which typically takes 4 months through the Montgomery County Academy and monthly and yearly training provided to remain certified and in compliance.

## **VI. CPAB Strategic Focus**

AI Generated Topics - AI generated topics to be discussed in future meeting.

Annual Plan Development – Mr. Perkins explained the importance of the Board creating a list of topics that can contribute to the Annual Plan. Mr. Zuckman generated a list of discussion points for the Board, which included, tracking hiring, promotions, and vacancies within RCPD, participating in live interviews to observe the hiring process, reviewing Call for Service reports from the Mental Health Specialist to obtain statistics and outcomes of calls, and reviewing a Use of Force report, which include crime data. Chief West explained that not all information can be released but advised that information is provided in a crime report that is posted weekly on the RCPD website and in the annual report. Mr. Perkins suggested for Board members to create ways to participate in community outreach outside of CPAB events, which could contribute to increased communication between the community and CPAB.

## **VII.**

### **New Business**

Annual Plan Development – Mr. Perkins advised that each member of the Board should think about a timeline and volunteers to draft a 2–3- page plan for the Board to address in future meetings. Mr. Perkins also proposed to make the police “Ride Along” part of the annual plan.

### **VIII. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment**

The next meeting of the CPAB will be held on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in person at the Rockville City Police Station. Mr. Perkins will be out of town and requested someone to serve as Acting Chairperson. Mr. Schneider agreed to act as Chair in next months meeting and the Board agreed as well.

Mr. Perkins and the Board suggested a May community meeting in the West End, Twinbrook, or Montrose communities.

**Motion:** to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by Board member Zuckman, motion seconded by Prather, motion passes unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.