



Community Policing Advisory Board

Minutes

Thursday, April 3, 2025

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

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

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

I. Call to Order

Chairman Perkins conducted roll call and called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

II. Motion to Approve Board Meeting Agenda

Motion: to approve the April 3, 2025, meeting agenda.

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

III. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes

Motion: to approve the March 6, 2025, meeting minutes.

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

IV. CPAB Updates

New Member Introductions – Chairperson Perkins welcomed new member, Todd Simmons. Mr. Simmons introduced himself as a current Rockville resident who is interested in giving back to the community by contributing to its ideas and community engagement. Mr. Perkins also welcomed Steve Bennett, who is interested in joining the board. Mr. Bennett gave a brief introduction of his background in policing and stated that he moved to Maryland three years ago and would like to contribute to community involvement in the City of Rockville.

V. RCPD Updates and Meet RCPD

RCPD Updates – Chief West provided an update on recruiting and hiring. He noted that recruiting has increased, which includes thirteen new vacancies within the department and twelve applicants in the hiring process. He stated that the department is almost fully staffed, while final offers were recently accepted in two civilian vacancies. Chief West mentioned an upcoming recruiting event on Saturday, April 5, and stated that (50) applicants would be in attendance. He also stated that physical fitness and oral hiring boards were re-implemented to increase hiring standards.

2024 Annual Report – Chief West briefly mentioned statistics on crime and stated there was a slight increase in property crime in 2024, which included vehicle theft and burglaries at some businesses in Rockville. He attributed the crime increase to the overall population growth within the City of Rockville. Chief West mentioned the steering wheel lock distribution through our community engagement events has been popular among residents. Chief West also stated that once vacancies are filled, RCPD will redeploy the police department and are currently working on strategies to help decrease crime within the city.

Meet RCPD – Mr. Ronnie Crowe introduced himself as Corporal Crowe, who works as a community service officer within the Community Engagement Unit. Cpl. Crowe informed the board that he has been with the department for 8 years, started as a patrol officer within the traffic unit, and moved to the Community Engagement Unit. Before joining RCPD, he worked as a police officer in Los Angeles, California.

VI. CPAB Strategic Focus

Annual Plan Development – Mr. Schneider asked Cpl. Crowe how the board can help with community engagement, which is part of the annual plan development. Cpl. Crowe stated that there were several upcoming events that the board members could participate in. The events included Coffee with Cops on April 9, International Night at Montgomery College on April 11, Rockville Skate Jam at the Swim Center on April 26, DEA Drug Takeback at RCPD Station, Neighborhood Safety Day on June 28, National Night Out on August 5, and Boo Bash in October.

Annual Report – Chairperson Perkins asked the board who would be willing to volunteer and put the annual report together. Mr. Perkins proposed that the annual plan be completed by the volunteer who completes the annual report. He stated that the group would discuss planning the annual report during the May 1st meeting.

Proposed Summer Activities – Cpl. Crowe shared a list of proposed summer activities that the board could participate in.

VII. New Business

Community Engagement -Ms. Valeri mentioned that “Knowing Your Rights” information should be created in different languages for Rockville’s diverse community groups. She also suggested that more bilingual events should be created in Rockville that could increase community engagement. Mr. Perkins inquired about the city providing translators to help facilitate events with the various groups. Ms. Valeri stated that the city would provide translators for various community groups to participate in events such as National Night Out.

VIII. Upcoming Meetings & Adjournment

The next meeting of the CPAB will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion: to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.