



Community Policing Advisory Board

Minutes

Thursday, June 5, 2025

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

Members Present: Eric Schneider, Petra Pacher, Bob Ross, Robin Prather, Steve Bennett, Todd Simmons, Ed Friedman, and Rebecca Kahlenberg were present. Michael Zuckman, Scott Moore, and Larry Center were absent.

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

I. Call to Order

Chairman Schneider conducted roll call and called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. Motion to Approve Board Meeting Agenda

Motion: to approve the June 5, 2025, meeting agenda.

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

III. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes

Motion: to approve the May 1, 2025, meeting minutes.

Moved by Board member Ross, seconded by Board member Friedman, unanimously approved.

IV. Guest Speakers

Guest Introductions – None.

V. Rockville City Police Updates

RCPD Updates – Chief West provided the following updates:

- **National Chief Search:** A brief update was given on the process of the ongoing national search for a new chief.
- **Special Olympics Fundraiser:** Chief West informed the Board about the recent "Cover the Cruiser" event held at Mission BBQ, organized by RCPD Community Service Officers. The event raised over \$700 to support Special Olympics.
- **Year-Round Support for Special Olympics:** RCPD continues to support Special Olympics through various events throughout the year, including:
 - Sales of t-shirts and hats
 - Participation in the Polar Bear Plunge
 - Other community fundraising activities
- **Event Promotion:** In response to a question from Mr. Ross regarding how events are advertised, Chief West stated that RCPD promotes events through its official social media webpage.
- **Community Engagement:** Chief West also mentioned the annual King Farm Town Hall Community event, noting it was well-received by King Farm residents.
- **New Business** -In response to a question from Mr. Zuckman regarding what RCPD's vision and direction was for next year, Chief West stated that he asked the city to provide an over hire budget for two more officers. Currently the department is four officers short from being fully staffed; it would allow the department 6 new vacancies. Chief West also mentioned an upcoming recruitment testing event, which will be held this Saturday, should assist in vacancies being filled. Chief west also gave an update on the departmental vacancies including recruiting for a new deputy chief and

VI. CPAB Business

Suburban Hospital Symposium – Mr. Ross delivered a brief but impactful statement regarding troubled youth, stressing the importance of providing assistance and intervention before they become involved in criminal activities. He underscored the availability of various facilities and community resources that could support early intervention efforts and expressed his belief that such initiatives could lead to meaningful change in the lives of young people.

Mr. Friedman built on this point by suggesting the development of programs aimed at helping children express and manage their emotions in constructive ways. He proposed creating a model or framework designed to guide youth through addressing personal challenges in a healthy and productive manner.

Workgroups Preparation - Mr. Schneider proposed the formation of three workgroups within the CPAB group to prepare specific reports, including:

1. A summary of CPAB actions over the past three years.
2. Plans for the upcoming year.
3. A review and update of the CPAB Rules of Procedure.

Three corresponding workgroups were established, each tasked with one of the above reports.

Ms. Prather requested that all members submit a list of past CPAB-related events they attended to assist with report preparation.

Chairperson Schneider opened the floor for comments and suggestions as to how the Board and workgroups should proceed with drafting the reports. He recommended that completed drafts be sent to the CPAB email account for group review and corrections.

Mr. Friedman suggested that each workgroup designate a lead person to coordinate the work and ensure progress.

Scheduled Meetings – Mr. Schneider raised the topic of holding meetings during the summer months. He suggested bringing the matter to the attention of the Boards and Commissions and the City Attorney’s Office (CAO) to determine whether summer meetings are permissible. If approved, he proposed that the meeting schedule could be adjusted beginning with the 2025–2026 fiscal year.

VII. New Business

None.

VIII. Upcoming Meetings & Adjournment

The next meeting of the CPAB will be held on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion: to adjourn the meeting.

Moved by Board member Ross, motion seconded by Friedman, motion passes unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.