

Community Policing Advisory Board Minutes Thursday, January 9, 2025

Meeting was held at the Rockville City Hall, Black Eyed Susan Room - 111 Maryland Ave, Rockville, MD 20850

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

Staff Present: Mayor Monique Ashton, 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 7:05 p.m.

II. Motion to Approve Board Meeting Agenda

Motion: to approve the January meeting agenda.

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

III. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes

Motion: to approve the November 7, 2024, meeting minutes.

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

IV. Community Policing Advisory Board Updates

Membership Update – Chairperson Perkins welcomed three new Board members, Ken Shenge, Larry Center, and Petra Pacher. Mr. Perkins also informed the Board that two members, Mr. Walker and Mr. Belay recently resigned and CPAB will be working with Boards and Commissions on filling the two new Board vacancies. The Board is currently down two (2) positions.

Budget Letter – Chairperson Perkins updated the Board regarding Bob Ross budget letter requesting for additional funding for a second mental health position and stated that the proposal was submitted to Mayor and Council for review.

RCPD Updates – Chief West introduced himself to the Board as current Interim Chief of Police for RCPD. He gave the Board a brief overview of his personal history as a police officer and updated the Board about ongoing changes regarding departmental polices within RCPD.

V. New Chief Mayor & Council Priorities

CPAB Hiring Representatives – Mayor Ashton reminded the Board to pick a member to serve on the selection process for the Chief of Police and mentioned that brochures went out for the hiring of the new Police Chief. She also stated that everyone will be invited to community engagement. Mr. Perkins advised that the Board would need a little more time to select a Board member to serve on the recruitment interview.

VI. CPAB Strategic Focus

AI Generated Topics - Mr. Perkins informed the Board that AI generated topics will be discussed at the next meeting in February.

Work Plans – Mr. Perkins briefly discussed the importance of work plans and stated that "Commissions that do well, have work plans".

VII.

New Business

None.

VIII. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment

The next meeting of the CPAB will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in person at the Rockville City Police Station.

Motion: to adjourn the meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.