

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING HELD  
ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018 IN THE COUNCIL ROOM AT THE MUNICIPAL  
BUILDING

The meeting began at 7:38 pm.

Members present were: Rick Ransom, Dea Zugby, Dan Hamlin, Jamie Krauk, Kevin Hammett and David Moran, Staff Liaison. Also present was Rick Bowers, Police Chief.

Welcome & Introductions

Rick welcomed everyone. Dan read the Community Pledge.

Approval of Minutes

Jamie suggested two minor edits for clarity. With these changes, Dan moved approval of the minutes from October 11, 2018. Dea seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Conversation with Police Chief Rick Bowers

Rick B. mentioned an idea for a Police Advisory Board. He stressed the importance and value of community policing. Rick B. noted the Department was short staffed. He stated property thefts and thefts from vehicles was an area that needed to be addressed. Rick B. stressed analytics and data were the future of policing.

Rick R. asked about the staff shortage. Rick B. responded the Department was down 10 officers, not including injuries. He noted the authorized sworn strength was 53.

Jamie suggested Rick B. consider how CRAB and PSAC would interact with the new board, the new Police Chief and what would the board's role be.

Jamie asked about data tools. Rick responded they have some tools but the biggest need is a staff expert who could examine and analyze the data. He stated there was not a dedicated staff person/crime analyst.

Rick R. referenced the petition regarding police use of military equipment. Chief Rick B. discussed at length his understanding of the Federal 1033 program, as well as its appropriate application, which covers more than tanks. He indicated it was necessary to have certain equipment, which, when used properly, might have civilian applications (i.e. a grenade launcher could be used to fire a less lethal nerf projectile). Rick B. stressed the need to properly use this equipment to protect civilians, for example by putting distance between a bad actor and the officers as well as bystanders.

## Plans for Police Youth Forum on November 20

Jamie summarized the reasons for the police community forums. She described Rashawn's background/bio including his expertise in the area of implicit bias. Jamie discussed CRAB's recommendations following the forums. She indicated that the Youth Forum was planned to be an annual event.

Rick relayed some of the stories that came up at one of the forums.

Dan reported that students were overwhelmingly positive in their descriptions of police officers. Dan noted that biases are always present for everyone.

## Report on Revised Community Pledge

David stated that the Report was on Council's 11/13 agenda for acceptance with a recommendation that it be considered by Council at their meeting on 11/26. He indicated someone from CRAB should be available at that meeting to answer any questions.

Several CRAB members agreed to attend the 11/26 meeting.

## Reports from CRAB (ear to the ground)

Several members noted there had been much discussion of the election. Rick relayed a minor incident at New Deal Café on Labor Day weekend where several young African-American females were told to leave the outdoor seating area at the Café. Jamie relayed an incident where children, whose mother was dining at the Café inside, were told they can't bring in outside food.

Kevin asked what CRAB could/should do. Dan expressed concern about getting involved in business decisions. Jamie asked if this is the kind of issue that CRAB wants to make a recommendation about or take some action on. Jamie suggested a series of forums/discussions on community dialogue.

## Next Meeting Date

The Board scheduled the next meeting for Thursday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Schrom Hills Park.

The meeting ended at 9:15 pm.