



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
TUESDAY, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Approved

A meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was held in the Burlington Police Department Community Room on Tuesday, March 26, 2019. Chair Asch called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

The following Commissioners were present: Chair Michele Asch, Vice Chair Shireen Hart, Commissioner Randall Harp, Commissioner Peter Bahrenburg, and youth Commissioner Landen Nipper. Also present: Chief del Pozo, DC Murad, DC Wright, Corporal Kratochvil, and Police Commission Clerk Laura Cheney.

**Additions or Modifications to Agenda**

- Social Media Policy

**Public Forum**

- Andrea Todd joined to follow up on the dissemination of public safety information. She feels NIXLE was abandoned, without warning, a few years back. Recently a sexual offender was released and she wasn't aware and feels there needs to be a push notification system. She doesn't feel Twitter, Facebook or visiting a website are sufficient resources for access to public information. She inquired about a public safety outlet. She feels less safe and less informed as a result of this shift away from NIXLE.
- The Chief remarked that the need for timely information is valid and inquired if FPF would be adequate for push notifications. Andrea agreed it would.
- Commissioner Harp noted there are two questions to answer: What is the best method, and what type of information should be disseminated.
- Chief noted we have underutilized methods like FPF and it comes down in large part to work flow and bandwidth, but we can do better. He proposed that time critical information be released through as many channels as possible, as well as sharing of incidents that community members should be aware of. Ideally, we'd have a Public Information Officer to manage the channels and the workflow.

**Chief's Report**

- The Chief reported on the shooting this past Sunday. The PD is still searching for the suspect, who fled the scene. We are confident he is the perpetrator and have involved the US Marshals.
- We have a tentative date for the Community BBQ - May 7th, adjacent to Edmunds.
- We had three national experts join us for an opioid forum last week. The visit also involved an opioid training with 160 Law Enforcement officers from around the state.
- The Chief reported on an incident that occurred on St Paul St involving a federal agency. The individual called the police to report the actions of the federal officers and his belief that they acted from racial bias. We take this matter very seriously, and have been in contact with the individual and family members, as well as the federal officers.
- DC Murad attended several events, with students at BHS, as well as a Refugee Resettlement Program dinner. Last night we hosted New American community leaders to discuss how we can work more closely with them.

**Review of Incoming Correspondence**

- Noted a wonderful letter from a community member in regard to Detective Chenette's handling of a recent untimely death.

**BPD Social Media Policy**

- Vice Chair Hart noted DD30 Public Information needs updating to reflect the use of social media.
- Chair Asch commented that the city policy seems comprehensive and adequate.
- Commissioner Harp noted that there are items specific to the department addressed in the Public Information directive that should cover social media use as it relates to policing.
- All agreed that once the City policy is final, approved and made public, the commission will regroup and confirm it is sufficient.
- Chair Asch will follow up with the community member who raised concerns to provide an update.

**Commissioners' Updates/Comments:**

- Vice Chair Hart noted her appreciation for all three chiefs attending the Friday Prayer at the Colchester Mosque on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Vice Chair Hart attended the February CommStat and was impressed by the quality of the meeting and the commitment of all involved. It was constructive and involved deliberation and collaboration between leaders, as well as individuals on the front lines of this epidemic.
- Vice Chair Hart also did a ride-along and was extremely impressed by the officer and the work of the patrol division.
- Chair Asch noted the awards luncheon was very well done, well attended, and had great content and recognition of the efforts of officers and community members.

**Consent Agenda – Minutes of Previous Commission Meetings:** February 19<sup>th</sup> Minutes

- Minor edit to clarify the Chief's report, and then approved by all.

**Next Meeting's Agenda Items and Date:**

- Next meeting – scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup>, rescheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Executive Session**

- Necessary to review recent incident and disciplinary action.

**Adjournment:**

- Vice Chair Hart motioned to move to Executive Session, Commissioner Bahrenburg seconded, regular meeting adjourned at 6:53pm. Executive Session adjourned at 7:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Laura Cheney  
Police Commission Clerk

3/26/2019