

1. Police Advisory Commission Agenda

Documents:

[07-26-18 AGENDA.PDF](#)

2. Police Advisory Commission Meeting Packet

Documents:

[JULY 26, 2018 POLICE ADVISORY MEETING SCHEDULE.PDF](#)



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION AGENDA
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018
7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS:

Andy Fanta	P	A
Heather Freeling	P	A
Kathleen McCormick	P	A
Susan Melke	P	A
Michael Stone-Richard	P	A
Gail Wolkoff	P	A

STAFF LIASION:

Police Chief Tony DeGuisti	P	A
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III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VI. MEETING SCHEDULES

— 2018 Meeting Schedule
— 2019 Meeting Schedule

VII. REPORTS

A. Chief of Police
B. Commission Chair

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Heritage Festival
B. Summerfest
C. Farmers Market
D. Other
E. Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission Contact List

X. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Website
- B. Facebook Discussion

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

— TBD

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

XIII. ADJOURNMENT



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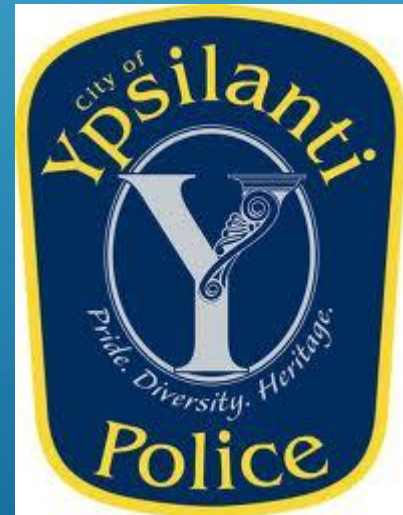
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XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

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YPSILANTI POLICE



SOME SIMPLE NUMBERS FOR 2017

Total Crash Reports: 693

Traffic Tickets Issues: 2,439

Calls for Service: 17,403

Case Reports Generated: 2,487

Total Number of Arrests: 785

Use of Force Report: 12 (1.53 % of all arrests).

Taser Deployment: 3 (this is also included in the Use of Force).

Vehicle Pursuits: 3

Red Box Collection: 161 Pounds of Prescription Meds

11 Narcan Administrations with 10 saves.

2,244 9-1-1 Calls

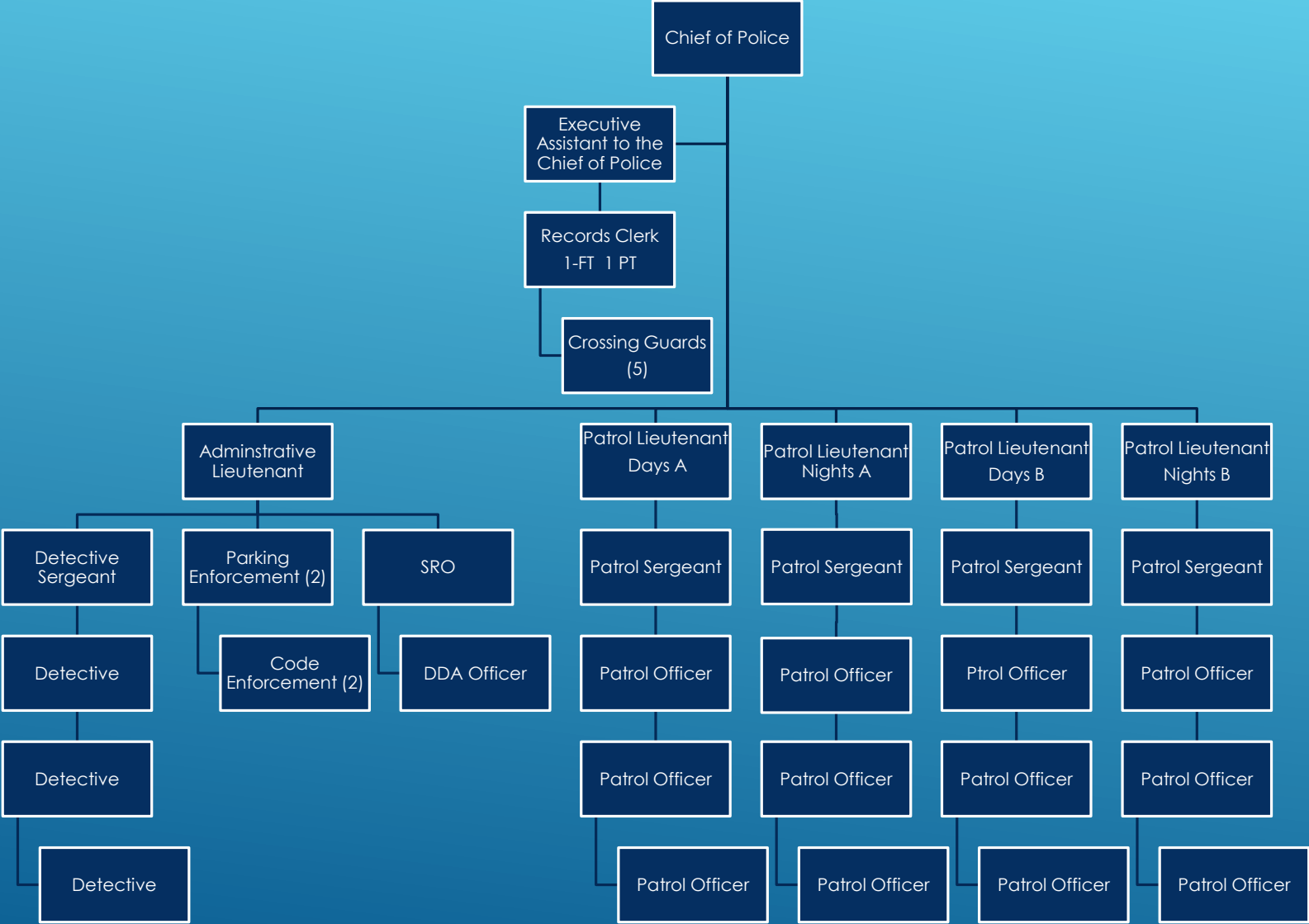
2018-19 Budgeted Staffing

	FT	PT
Chief	1	
Lieutenants	5	
Sergeants	5	
Police Officers	17	
Code Enforcement	2	
Parking Enforcement	2	
Police Administration	1	
Records Clerk	1	1
Crossing Guards		5
Totals	34	6

Staffing Levels



2018-19 Organizational Chart



DEPARTMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

	Enforcement	Clerical
White Males	15	
Black Males	4	
White Females	6	1
Black Females	2	
Hispanic Males	1	
Hispanic Females		1



Operations

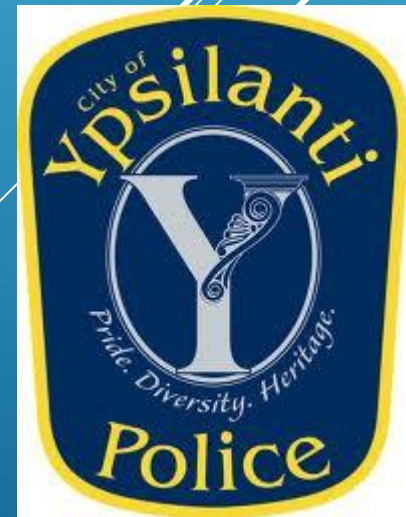
Patrol Works 12 hour shifts. 6AM to 6PM / 6PM to 6AM

Rotating days off schedule : Week 1- M Tu W Th F Sa Su
w w off off w w w

Week 2- M Tu W Th F Sa Su
off off w w off off off

Shift Rotations/ Vacation picks every 6 months.

Detective Bureau
DDA Officer
SRO
K-9 (2)
SWAT



HIRING PROCESS

Minimum Qualifications (MCOLES) and Application

Application Review

Oral Board Interview

Report Writing Exercise

Interview with the Chief

Intensive Background Investigation

Conditional Job Offer

Psychological Testing

Physical Exam and Drug Screening



TRAINING:

Police Academy: Pre-Service / Police Academy

Minimum 594 Hours of Basic Instruction

This is an introduction to over 70 topic areas. Blocks of instruction vary from as little as 2 hours to several days

Field Training Program: In-house introduction/orientation.

Ongoing Training at the Department Includes:

Legal Update

Defensive Tactics

Hazardous Materials

K-9 Maintenance Training

SWAT

Firearms

Blood Borne Pathogens

First Aid / CPR

Roll Call Topics and Policy/General Order Review



TRAINING CONTINUED...

We have also done:

Cultural Awareness

Fair and Impartial Policing

Fair and Impartial Policing for Command

Human Terrain Mapping Behavior Pattern Recognition and Analysis

Managing Mental Health Crisis

Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement

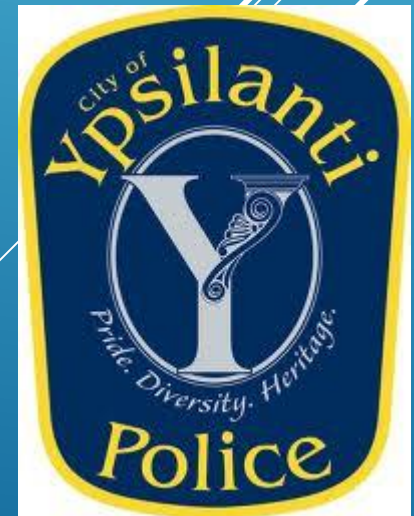
Verbal De-Escalation

Specialized Training:

Interview and Interrogation

Evidence Tech

EMU School of Police Staff and Command



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

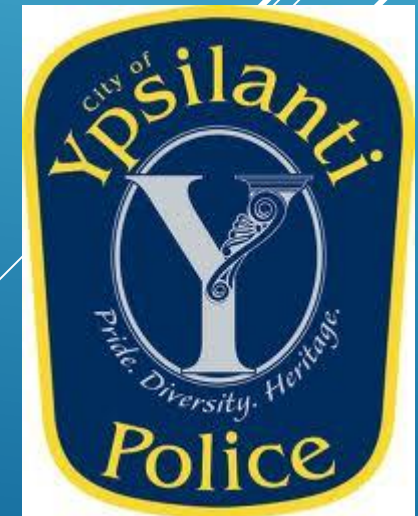
YCS

SRO - Middle School
Man Up or Kid Down
Work Interns



Youth Groups

Ozone House
DTMAC
Mentor 2 Youth



COMMUNITY AT LARGE:

COPAC (COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING ACTION COUNCIL)
HERITAGE PARK ASSOCIATION
ENPACT (ENHANCING POLICE AND COMMUNITY TRUST)
FRIENDS OF THE YPSILANTI POLICE
ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE
MDOC (MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS)
STEERING COMMITTEE
OFFENDER RELEASE MEET AND GREET
CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY
COMMUNITY EVENTS..... HALLOWEEN /SHOP WITH A COP ETC.



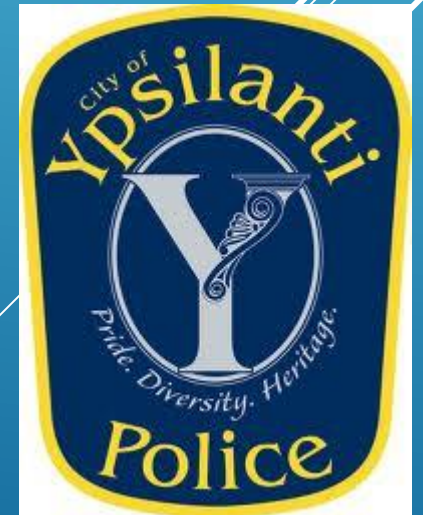
Made Presentations to:

NAACP Events

Each One Reach One, National Night Out, Civitans etc.

Ypsilanti High School

Community Forums



YPSILANTI POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICIES/ MACP ACCREDITATION

The program is designed with consideration for the following goals:

To establish and maintain standards that represent *current professional law enforcement practices*;

To *increase effectiveness and efficiency* in the delivery of law enforcement services;

To establish standards that address and *reduce liability* for the agency and its members.

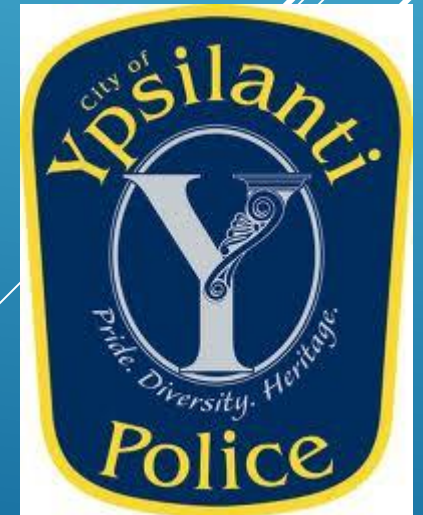


HOW DOES ACCREDITATION WORK?

The foundation of Accreditation lies in the voluntary adoption and complying with

Professional standards

containing a clear statement of
professional objectives

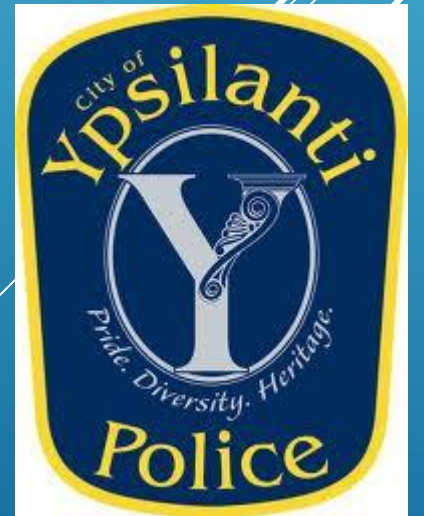


WHY WOULD WE WANT TO DO THIS?

Accredited status represents a significant *professional achievement*.

Accreditation acknowledges the *implementation of sound written directives* that are conceptually and operationally effective.

Requires *constant review and updating* of those written directives.



ACCOUNTABILITY

How can you make a complaint about the Police Department or any of it's employees?

Availability of Complaint Packets

Availability on line

Investigation of all complaints

Investigation with out complaints

Allegations of Criminal Conduct

Remedies if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of a complaint.



COMPLAINT SUMMARY

Year	# of Complaints	Substantiated	Unsubstantiated	Unfounded
2013	3	1	2	0
2014	3	1	0	2
2015	3	1	0	2
2016	9	6	0	3

(2016 Complaints include one complaint against a Parking Enforcement Officer and one complaint about a civilian employee at the Police Department).



2017 IN MORE DETAIL

- #1 May 2017 3rd Party Complaint Reference Accepting a Gratuity, unprofessional conduct and failure for an FTO to properly supervise. Unfounded/Unsubstantiated/Substantiated. Action taken against the officer.
- #2 May 2017 Citizen complained that an Officer's social media page content was racially insensitive. Substantiated. Officer was disciplined.
- #3 June 2017 Citizen complained that Officer was rude during an encounter about being on restricted property (Water Street). Substantiated. No discipline was issued as the officer retired before the complaint was made.
- #4 June 2017 Citizen complained that an MDOP report was inaccurate. Substantiated. Officer corrected the report and was counselled.
- #5 July 2017 Citizen complained that an accident report was not accurate. Substantiated. Officer corrected report and was counselled.
- #6 August 2017 Citizen complained that he was subjected to a Taser deployment. After the complainant was advised that the encounter was documented on the officer's body cam he refused to cooperate with the investigation. After a review of the video it was determined that the use of the Taser was within policy and appropriate.
Unsubstantiated/Unfounded.



MORE ON ACCOUNTABILITY

Reports:

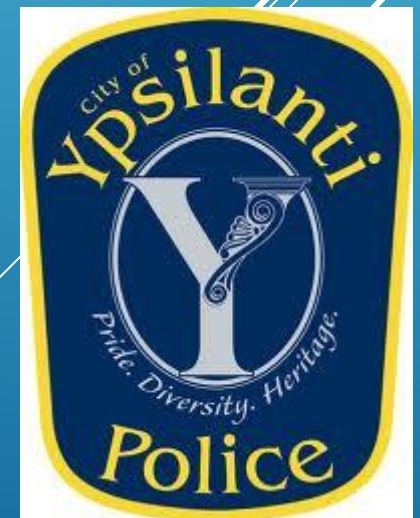
Every report is submitted to a Command Officer assigned to a shift and reviewed for accuracy, form and content. Case progress is also monitored by the Command Officer to insure that cases are being work on in a timely manner.

Daily Activity:

Officers daily activity logs are submitted at the end of every shift and reviewed by Shift supervisors. This information can be verified through Washtenaw Central Dispatch which is located at the Sheriff's Office. A copy of the 24 hour daily is provided and reviewed by the Shift Commanders, the Administrative Lieutenant and the Chief of Police.

Use of Force:

All uses of force must be reported and are tracked in a program called Force LMS. Each instance is recorded to the most granular piece of data available. These Use of Force reports are reviewed at the shift level, and by the Administrative Lieutenant and the Chief of Police.



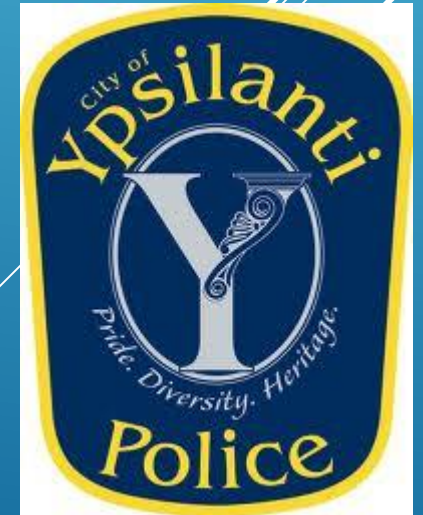
STILL MORE ON ACCOUNTABILITY.....

Taser Deployment:

A separate Taser Report is maintained and with each deployment of a Taser the report is updated and the update is sent to the City Manager and then passed on to the City Council. As with any use of force this also follows the several tiers of review at the department. To insure that all Taser deployments are reported each Taser is periodically downloaded to insure accountability.

Vehicle Pursuits:

Similar to the use of force, these incidents are also recorded in Force LMS and are subject to the several layers of review to insure policy was followed.



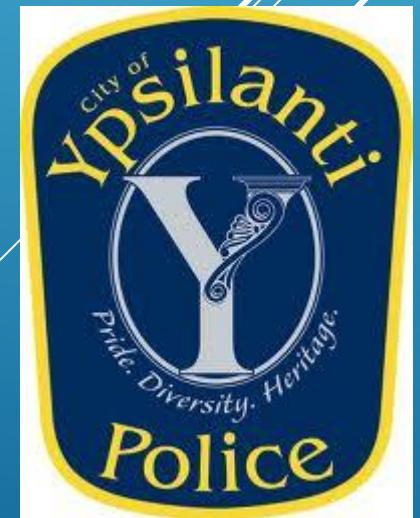
YET MORE ON ACCOUNTABILITY....

In-car and Body Cam Video:

Policy dictates when it is required to record interactions. To insure that officers are utilizing the cameras correctly and according to policy each Shift/Bureau Commander is responsible for making random spot checks of each officer's videos. These checks are recorded and a report of those checks is sent to the Chief of Police monthly.

Injury Reports:

Any situation where a person requires any type of medical attention is reported to Administration by the end of the shift. It does not matter if the injury was caused by a member of the department or not. Each instance is documented, including people who simply report that they are ill (asking to go to the hospital due to some general health condition.)



IMMIGRATION ISSUES

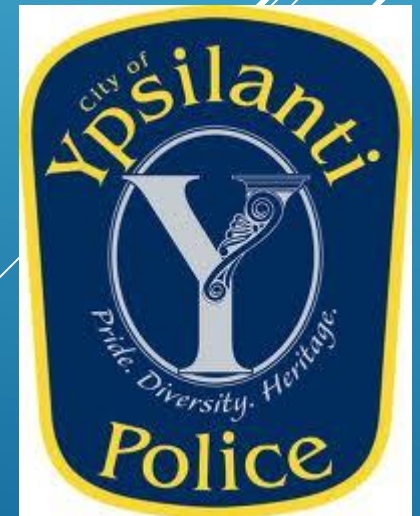
We do not have a direct or ongoing relationship with ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement).

We do not actively seek undocumented immigrants for deportation.

However, we are oath bound to assist another law enforcement agency if they make the request. To my knowledge we have not received such a request.

The Police Department conforms to the City of Ypsilanti ordinance of not asking a person about their immigration status unless required to by law.

The Ypsilanti Police Department has been in support of the Washtenaw County ID Project and recognizes that document as legitimate identification.



OTHER RECENT ISSUES

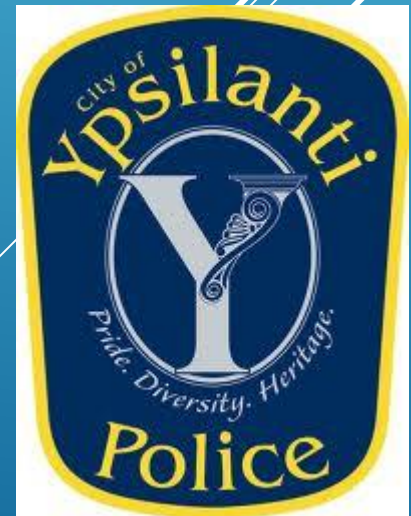
The Ypsilanti Police Department does not participate in Asset Forfeiture unless it is directly tied to a criminal case. No investigations are engaged in without the express intent to prosecute a crime.

The Ypsilanti Police Department does not have any military equipment through any military surplus or any other Federal program.

A caution on comparing stats:

Sources of Information

Reporting Guidelines/Requirements



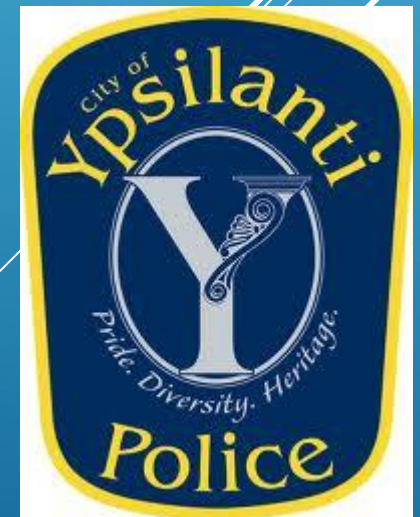
NATIONAL NARRATIVE / REALITY / LOCAL CONTROL

24 hour news cycle

Edited Versions vs the Complete Story

Bureau of Justice Statistics Publication : Emerging Use of
Force Issues

President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing



Meeting Minutes

City of Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission

Organizational Meeting City Council Chambers – One South Huron St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Thursday, June 28, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Fanta	Present
Commissioner Freeling	Present
Commissioner McCormick	Present
Commissioner Melke	Present
Commissioner Stone-Richard	Absent
Commissioner Wolkoff	Present

Also Present: Staff Liaison – Police Chief Tony DeGuisti
 Nancy Hare-Dickerson, Commission Secretary

III. AGENDA APPROVAL:

**Fanta (second Melke) moved to approve the Agenda as submitted.
Unanimous approval. Motion carried.**

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

Audience Participant Thomas Tiplady, Ypsilanti, stated that he saw an ad on television where a plastic film product was placed on a window which was then hit with a sledge hammer and the window didn't break through; that he wondered if anybody knew where the product could be purchased.

Audience Participant Leah Mills-Chapman indicated that she is a therapist with Washtenaw County Community Mental Health working with Youth and Family and also works with the SURE Moms organization, of which many of the moms involved reside in south side Ypsilanti. She expounded on a recent forum which occurred at Parkridge Community Center where some concerns

were discussed that the Ypsilanti Police Department did not show themselves as community friendly and she outlined examples. She expressed that with the many challenges, better relationships are needed that extend beyond a level of force. She asked about the mission and the direction the Commission is planning to take and/or the challenges that the Commission are hoping to remedy. She stated that there needs to be a level of sensitivity from the police, that they need to get out and walk among the people and let them know that they are not seen as a target or polarized from the police force and look for ways that we can come together. She offered her help to partner in any way necessary to help bridge the gap. She also shared a concern that the police may be overworked, which can cause fatigue and that casualties can result from that; that possibly more funds could be identified to increase police staffing. She stated that she would also like to see police training for secondary trauma and training for diversity and inclusion, all of which are necessary in building a community that is safe for the citizenry and for the police officers.

Audience Participant Katie asked about the mission and intention of the Commission, if it is meant to be oversight or more of an advisory role. She mentioned that the Ann Arbor Police Oversight Committee is reviewing/voting on a presentation by community educators and organizers that was put together following a long series of community listening sessions that includes recommendations to the police oversight about their purpose and mission. She detailed some of the guidelines from the Ann Arbor committee meeting and suggested that the Commission review them. She expressed a concern that an increase in police funding/staffing might not be spent/used in a way that benefits the community and that she would like the Commission to look into whether it is true that the Ypsilanti Police Department spends more money than other local police departments of similar jurisdictions, which she says is information that was brought to her attention.

Commissioner Melke stated that the use of overhead projection is necessary at every meeting to make sure people understand what is going on, in terms of the Agenda and meeting packet; that too much happens that there is not enough transparency about.

Commissioner McCormick read the following, from Ordinance No. 1295 Section 2.201, in response to questions regarding the mission/purpose of the Police Advisory Commission: *"The purpose of the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission is: a. To strengthen the relationship between the community of the City of Ypsilanti and the Ypsilanti Police Department. b. To serve as a liaison to enhance community and police relations and to serve as an advocate for programs, ideas, and methods to improve the relations between the police and the community c. To Review police complaint investigatory*

findings, and report to council on the Commission's analysis of these findings";

Commissioner Fanta continued reading from Ordinance No. 1295 Section 2.201: *"d. To collect, review, and audit summary data and compile aggregate statistics relating to individual or community police complaints and other issues of importance e. To educate the public about the complaint process, and ensure and recommend ways to make the process accessible to all f. To make recommendations to the City Manager with regard to organizational matters and procedures. g. To participate in annual review of the Ypsilanti Police Department's Citizen Police Academy. h. To consult and advise the City Manager on the Ypsilanti Police Department's strategic plan".*

Commissioner Fanta explained that the Commission will discuss and work to arrange a priority of things to be worked on as they move forward.

Audience Participant Alex expressed a concern about increasing police funding. She asked about the process for becoming appointed to the Commission; asked if the Commission will be releasing any information that is received from surveys and data acquisition; asked what the annual review process is about, what it looks like and who can participate; and asked how often the commission meetings are and if there will always be public comments. She indicated having less faith in a commission to uphold police accountability where the police are present.

Commissioner Fanta replied that the frequency of the meetings is yet to be decided; that this is the first meeting and there will be input from all of the commissioners as to what needs to be done and the priority. He stated that initially, there might possibly be more frequent meetings. He shared that some of the commissioners have discussed possibly designing a webpage and having a Facebook presence.

Commissioner Melke expressed a concern that much of the community may take issue with Police Chief DeGuisti as advisor due to the appearance that he is in the middle of the oversight process; that people may not trust that the Commission will do anything substantial.

Commissioner Fanta explained that Police Chief DeGuisti is not an advisor to the Commission; rather, a liaison, volunteering his presence in the event there is a question that he can answer.

Commissioner Wolkoff stated that the appointment process and the ability to apply is laid out on the City of Ypsilanti webpage. She explained that the current commissioners went onto the website, applied, were appointed and then voted on by Council. Responding to the question regarding the releasing of information, she stated that there would be minutes from each meeting.

She also stated that complaints could be made on the City webpage or sent directly to Police Chief DeGuisti and that there is possibly a 3-week turnaround for a reply.

Audience Participant Alex asked if the Commission would be looking at alternatives to policing and expressed the need to have more mental health care workers brought into the community to help solve problems that are often policed by people who aren't prepared or trained to deal with those situations.

Commissioner Freeling suggested that it might be important for the commissioners to explain individually their reasons for becoming appointed to the Commission. She expressed that one of the reasons she applied is to be able to introduce ideas for alternatives to policing, utilizing her background in law enforcement and firefighting, and hopefully get some of those ideas moved forward into the police department. She stated that the Purpose Statement which was read is also on the City website.

Commissioner Melke indicated that many people in the community don't have the internet or the ability to get on the internet, which is problematic.

Commissioner Fanta asked if commissioners would go around the table and share with fellow commissioners and the audience who they are and what their background is.

[All commissioners and Police Chief DeGuisti shared their name and background information]

Reasons for Seeking Commission Appointment:

Commissioner Wolkoff – *"I'm here because I believe that this is a community situation. We all know what's going on out there. So far, the Ypsilanti Police Department and Ypsilanti has been safe from any real violence, any real strong arming and it's my responsibility to do something about that. So that's why I'm on the commission, is to help do something about that. I also work a lot with the Incarcerating Children as Adults because we're one of the four states that still incarcerates children as adults."*

Commissioner McCormick – *"Do I want to change the world? You're absolutely right, I do. I've got to give everything I have to try and change the atmosphere, the tension, the stereotypes that we have against our police officers or that the police officers have against those in our community. I will do my very best to bring a positive light to that. Will it end? Sure – we've gone through things like this before We go through things like this and I actually believe we're going to get through this again but it's going to take a community and it's going to take the administration and it's going to take a lot*

of education and it's going to take a lot of trust, which is what we're going to have to instill in our youth so that they can carry it forward."

Commissioner Fanta – "I feel this is an important thing to do now. I'm thrilled to be on this commission and to work with the other commissioners as we conceptualize what this commission can do and as we arrange our priorities.... I agree that there's terrible problems with regard to people that have mental health issues; I think there are terrible problems that people bring to their daily lives where poverty impacts upon them and I'm just not sure at the very beginning stages how we go forward and partner with other people that have more knowledge in that area than I do but I'm very open to that process. I believe life is very much kind of like a teeter-totter – one moment you may be the teacher because you may have a little expertise to share and then the other moment you have to be prepared to be an active listener if somebody is sharing their inputs with you."

Commissioner Melke – "I watch all the 'Black Lives Matter' stuff, all the 'Cop Block' stuff, all the people trying to file complaints who are arrested. And I'm not saying it's happening here. What I'm saying is it makes me infinitely suspicious of the police. And I think that's a voice that needs to be here.... I want to see that we listen to the community.... Time for town halls, time for when people can speak more than three minutes, because you can't have a good discussion that way.... I want to do what's right for the city and I feel like part of that is incredible transparency and that we have teeth in what we do."

Commissioner Fanta stated that although antidotes and stories are important, that the focus needs to be on discussing some general next-step areas to form structure and meaning. He asked for input on what would be the best mechanism for the public to be able to communicate with the Commission; i.e., developing a website/having a Facebook presence.

Police Chief DeGuisti offered that there is already an online complaint system that's attached to the City's website; that if the Commission developed their own website, they could possibly link right to it.

Commissioner Melke asked who would make the website.

Commissioner Fanta responded that there are rich resources and possibly someone would create one as a matter of public service.

Commissioner Melke stated that would be great and that the first step should be to schedule a town hall in order to learn what the citizens want the Commission to do.

Police Chief DeGuisti offered that there are two areas for audience participation in each meeting and that the Commission could vote to waive the 3-minute rule, if they felt it prudent to do so. He suggested that the next

step probably should be to handle the election of the Commission chair and vice-chair.

Commissioner Melke stated her preference that commissioners would take turns and there would be no need for a chair, so nobody is above anyone else.

Commissioner Fanta responded that he does not object to a town hall but that, initially, the Commission should begin with some very specific kinds of objectives. Indicated that the Commission is mandated to elect a chair under 2.203 b.

Commissioner Melke stated her reason for suggesting a town hall is so that meetings could be held in a different location; that there are people who would be uncomfortable coming to City Hall but would attend a town hall meeting held elsewhere.

Commissioner Freeling expressed her agreement with both Commissioners Fanta and Melke regarding the town hall and the importance of eventually having one but stated that it would be important to get to know each other first, get comfortable with our goals and expand on our purpose. She stated that regarding chair and co-chair, although understanding the comments of Commissioner Melke, that an important thing a chair would do is get the meeting going and help the meeting stay on track; that it would be highly unlikely for power struggles to occur in this commission and that, with a group this small, all will have their moments to speak and be heard.

Commissioner Fanta added that he would like to see the meetings move around the city regardless of whether the Commission decides to title it a town hall or otherwise. He asked Police Chief DeGuisti to give a presentation on what is going on statistically in Ypsilanti.

Police Chief DeGuisti offered that if the Commission lets the Clerk know where they would like to hold a meeting, so that it is properly noticed, that they could possibly have it just about anywhere they'd like within the city.

Commissioner Wolkoff stated that, initially, the more the Commission indicates they are collecting input/information, the more they will need to meet. She suggested possibly conducting a "First Fridays" where people could sit at a table and ask questions/comment, which could address the concern that not everyone has social media. She stated that commissioners, boards, schools, teachers, administrators should reflect the demographics of the community to truly get an idea of what's going on in the community.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Commission Schedule

[Discussion ensued regarding possible frequency and scheduling of future meetings]

Commissioner McCormick stated that regarding chair/co-chair, there needs to be someone who is going to be held accountable for the things that need to be done and to help steer the commission and the audience in a focused direction; that she doesn't think it's going to be a power struggle for the group. She stated that as to a town hall meeting, as of right now, the Commission doesn't really have the answers for the people, as there is still discussion on what needs to be done. She indicated that some of what the Commission is responsible for is *"to review police complaint investigatory findings"*, *"data and compile statistics"* and things like that; that with this being the first meeting, there has not been the opportunity to do any of that. She suggested maybe deciding on some things that need to be done and a plan to move the Commission forward and a plan to strengthen the relationship between the community and our police officers.

[Discussion continued regarding possible frequency and scheduling of future meetings]

Commissioner Wolkoff asked if it would be possible, given the legal, ethical constraints that exist, to get information about what kind of complaints are coming in.

Police Chief DeGuisti answered in the affirmative. He stated that he could possibly provide that by end of day tomorrow; that we are talking about a police department that averages nine complaints a year.

Commissioner Melke asked if it would be actual complaints or an evaluation of each complaint without any information.

Police Chief DeGuisti responded that he cannot give the complaints; that that is why it says a "review". He stated that this has all been reviewed by Mr. Barr and discussed at open Council meetings that there is certain information that can and cannot be released. He stated that that is the reason the Ordinance is phrased in the manner in which it is, where it reads *"To review police complaint investigatory findings, and report to council on the Commission's analysis of these findings; To collect, review, and audit summary data and compile aggregate statistics relating to individual or community police complaints and other issues of importance."* He explained that he can tell the Commission what the nature of the complaint is, what the outcome is but not who the officers were, who the complainants were and what the actual disciplinary action was; only that there was action taken.

Commissioner Melke asked how the Commission is to do their job if they are unable to get to see what they are, even with redacted names.

Police Chief DeGuisti responded that the actual citizen complaint is confidential.

[Discussion continued regarding the ability to receive police complaints for review]

Commissioner Fanta stated that he is open to any discussion going forward as to whether or not the Commission can improve the process but that, initially, it would be helpful to ask Police Chief DeGuisti to explain how the complaint process works, walk us through one or use an actual complaint that was investigated and share it with us.

Police Chief DeGuisti responded that he previously gave a fairly lengthy presentation to a combined City Council/Human Relations Commission meeting with a lot of citizen attention and that if the next meeting was scheduled a month out, he would have time to revamp and update that presentation to our current statistics and to redo that at the next meeting.

Commissioner Melke stated that she would like to hear the presentation. She expressed, however, that information the Commission receives that is filtered through the Chief is suspect; that it's like considering one side to tell us what happened.

Commissioner Freeling suggested that possibly a way to address that is having a website or social media presence; that with some kind of direct avenue, the community could be provided with a way to present complaints to the Commission specifically and be able to say that it was taken care of or not taken care of.

Commissioner Melke responded that it's hard to believe that we can't get more than just the Chief's interpretation, which may be perfectly accurate but how do we know that and how does our community know that.

Commissioner Freeling offered that maybe that's part of the Commission's job is to be the checks and balances and if we were extremely organized and worked really hard, we potentially could be.

Commissioner Melke responded that the Commission only gets to look at it after it's done.

Commissioner Wolkoff expressed that that is where we are now; that she is all for checks and balances but the idea is how can we get information to the community. She asked the Commission to keep in mind giving information

and collecting information because we can't address anything right now because we don't know anything.

Commissioner Fanta stated that he appreciates the depth of Commissioner Melke's concerns but looking at the Agenda, it reads "*City of Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission Agenda*" and not "Police Oversight Commission Agenda". He stated that it means that the Commission has the power to make suggestions, to listen to the community, to set up a communication mechanism for the community but not oversight functions.

Commissioner Melke responded that c and d in the Ordinance specifically reads, "*To Review police complaint investigatory findings, and report to council on the Commission's analysis.*" She asked how the Commission is to do that without all of the information. She stated that d is, "*To collect, review, and audit summary data and compile aggregate statistics relating to individual or community police complaints and other issues of importance.*" She indicated that she was at the Council meeting when this was done and the idea was to "let's give them this and then they can form it to what they want it to be".

[Discussion continued regarding the ability to receive police complaints for review]

Commissioner Melke asked Police Chief DeGuisti how he would imagine the Commission carrying out c and d.

Police Chief DeGuisti responded that he would give the Commission a summary and that some of this has to do with "do you trust your police chief?"

Commissioner Melke responded that her trust does not extend to this format, that her job is to be a skeptic.

Commissioner Wolkoff asked if she could be provided with what the boundaries are so she can review and have a better idea of what the police constraints are in relation to what the City Council wrote. She stated that in some ways, it looks like the Commission is between a rock and a hard place – that City Council clearly stated that c and d need to be done.

Commissioner Melke asked how other cities do it.

Police Chief DeGuisti responded that other cities do exactly what we're doing right now; that there is no city in the state of Michigan that allows any outside agency or commission to actually investigate or decide citizen complaints.

Commissioner Melke asked how other places review them and have more

information than the summary.

Police Chief DeGuisti responded that as far as he is aware of, they don't.

Commissioner Melke expressed that that is problematic. She stated that she isn't laying blame but isn't able to see how the Commission can do what they're supposed to do nor how the community is going to believe that the Commission is doing what they're supposed to do.

Commissioner McCormick stated that the Commission is supposed to do a lot more than just review the complaint; that there are things the Commission is just not going to have access to. She stated that once the Commission has an open forum, those complaints may be forthcoming but as for what's already there, the Commission is not going to get it and that is not our purpose.

Police Chief DeGuisti added that it doesn't necessarily end with the police department; that if a person is dissatisfied with the results of a complaint they made, then they have a right to appeal to the City Manager and make a complaint and they also are able to attend a City Council meeting. In the complaints that have been made to the police department since he's been here, he stated that he can only think of one time when someone brought a citizen complaint about the police department to a City Council meeting because they were not happy with the outcome of an investigation.

Commissioner Melke stated that once people are told their complaint was unfounded, that they sometimes don't pursue it further; that at some point, it is unreasonable to expect people to take ten more steps.

Commissioner McCormick suggested that she pick up what was offered by Police Chief DeGuisti that he could have by the end of the day tomorrow and that Commissioner Melke could take a look at it; that possibly it may be enough information.

[Discussion ensued re: the multiple purposes of the Commission as indicated in Ordinance Section 2.201 and what is important to do initially]

Commissioner Wolkoff suggested scheduling a meeting on July 26th as a commission and that Police Chief DeGuisti will do a presentation as previously discussed.

Commissioner Fanta suggested that on July 26th, the first order of business be Police Chief DeGuisti giving a historical overview of the complaints during his watch, walking the Commission through the complaint process, go through the agenda and then, after public comments, get into a work session. He stated he would be willing to work with someone on

suggesting different meeting locations in the city.

[Discussion ensued re: future meeting locations]

Commissioner Wolkoff asked Police Chief DeGuisti if he could also address on July 26th what the jurisdiction is of the Ypsilanti Police Department and how, for example, EMU fits into the picture.

Commissioner Freeling also asked Police Chief DeGuisti to address some internal logistics and things like a department review, for example.

Wolkoff (second Melke) moved to establish Thursday evenings, 7pm, for the Police Advisory Commission to hold meetings, with the next formal meeting to be held on July 26, 2018, 7pm, at City Hall Chambers. Unanimous approval. Motion carried.

B. Election of Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

Commissioner Fanta volunteered to serve as Chair of the Police Advisory Commission.

McCormick (second Freeling) moved to approve Commissioner Fanta to serve as Chair of the Police Advisory Commission.

Roll Call Vote:

Fanta:	Yes	Freeling:	Yes	McCormick:	Yes
Melke:	No*	Stone-Richard:	Absent	Wolkoff:	Yes

[*Commissioner Melke voiced her preference to not have a designated Chair/Vice Chair for the Commission]

Motion carried.

Commissioners Freeling and McCormick volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair of the Police Advisory Commission.

Commissioner Fanta nominated Commissioner McCormick, and she accepted, to serve as Vice Chair of the Police Advisory Commission.

Fanta (second Freeling) moved to approve Commissioner McCormick to serve as Vice Chair of the Police Advisory Commission.

Roll Call Vote:

Fanta:	Yes	Freeling:	Yes	McCormick:	Yes
Melke:	No*	Stone-Richard:	Absent	Wolkoff:	Yes

[*Commissioner Melke voiced her preference to not have a designated Chair/Vice Chair for the Commission]

Motion carried.

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

Audience Participant Leah Mills-Chapman had the following follow-up comments: Cautioned against having a Facebook presence, questioning who would manage it and that it is difficult to regulate what is being stated on the site. Regarding advisory vs oversight - in view of some of the areas the Commission is to govern, that when emergency services are being looked at in terms of disparities, knowing details of response times, for example, is critical. Regarding the representation of the Commission – a concern that the Commission lacks representation of the people that may be feeling harm or disparagement; that there should be more people of color and more youth should be represented. She asked if the application process was closed and wondered how many had been aware of an open application process for the ability to join the Commission. Regarding mental health issues – having the advisement of a mental health professional would be significant for the Commission as an advisory council. She also informed the Commission that this is an anniversary weekend for a young man murdered in the community, bringing about heightened tensions and anxiety in the city; that parents are asked to keep their children at home. She expressed that when looking at liaisons, it needs to go beyond just the police; that it needs to be a community liaison, one that is relational, one that knows the people, one that can speak voice to the people and they will listen.

Audience Participant Katie agreed with the previous comments and asked what the Commission is going to do about that. Indicated that she learned that the application process is not closed – that there is one open general and one open youth position, although the youth position is non-voting, which is problematic. She stated that if a youth member can provide input but doesn't have the power to share in the decision-making process, that it sends the message that the youth voice is not really valued. She stated a concern that the Commission has already elected a chair and vice-chair and are deciding on priorities when there is not even full membership; that they're making choices about what this looks like without voices of people that need to be involved. She also stated that it looks like all are on board with trying to improve relations between the community and the police but that from the introductions and background information shared by commissioners, it seems the Commission is almost entirely composed of people who have good relationships, good opinions and good experiences with the police. She asked how the Commission, who is mostly made up of people who have good perceptions of the police, plans to improve relations without immediately going to the community and learning more about what that's about. She says

she feels there is actually a lot of negative perception and distrust in the community about the police that hasn't been a part of this meeting and wonders when it will become a part of it. She stated a concern to a commissioner's comment about the city not having had an incident of serious violence occur and recalled that, in 2007, David Ware was murdered by the police, although that situation didn't receive a lot of publicity or investigation. She further stated that when independent citizen organizational efforts had been made to learn more about the incident and investigate it, that those individuals were intimidated by the police to try to halt the investigation. She stated wanting to clarify for commissioners that there are incidents of violence in the city that are of concern. She expressed concerns about the complaint issues – how are you supposed to review them if you can't see what they are. She also stated wanting to affirm the idea that was mentioned that the Commission have its own independent complaint submission process to create an opportunity for people to directly give data if they wish and have a direct line to the Commission.

Commissioner Fanta stated that you can learn from statistics without necessarily knowing what the specifics are of a given incident and he gave an example from his past work experience. He agreed that having a mental health liaison is important. He suggested partnering with Commissioner Freeling to have a table at the Heritage Festival to identify who the Commission is.

Commissioner Wolkoff noted that the Joe Dulin Summerfest is the same weekend as the Heritage Festival and proposed that the Commission go to both. She explained her understanding that the Commission takes two people from each ward – that there are three people from Ward 1, two from Ward 2 and no one from Ward 3. She stated that the youth member voting is something that a number of people have been challenging City Council on.

[Discussion ensued re: youth and non-voting rights]

Commissioner Fanta indicated he will contact the City Attorney's office for clarification regarding youth member voting on the Commission.

Commissioner Wolkoff encouraged the audience to return and see what the Commission does.

Audience Participant Leah Mills-Chapman clarified that what she meant by "representation" is the significance of having the level of representation of people who have had real life experiences who can lend to the conversation versus everything coming from data.

Commissioner Freeling, in response to comments regarding the Commission being the liaison for police and the community and that there

needs to be an extension of expertise, stated a need for more people that can be trusted who are interested in participating that have expertise. She stated that diversity is a huge problem and she shared her experience of going over and talking to her neighbor, who is African-American and has lived in the neighborhood for sixty years, which helps to give her a broader perspective of things going on.

Commissioner Fanta indicated that he will contact the Mayor to stress and share the concerns that were raised regarding the remaining open commission positions, including the comments about the youth representative.

[Discussion continued re: definition of “youth” and their voting ability]
[Discussion re: general emails between commissioners and compliance with the Open Meetings Act]

Police Chief DeGuisti indicated that one of the Commission mandates is *“To participate in annual review of the Ypsilanti Police Department’s Citizen Police Academy”*. He stated that the only way the Commission can review it is if they have actually gone through it. He proposed putting a citizen’s academy together for the commissioners to attend for exposure to what the police do. He also encouraged commissioners to sign up for ride-alongs during the evening as well as during the day and to talk to the police and see how they interact with the public. He indicated that there is a program put on by the African-American Association of Human Resources in September at the Marriott for their national convention and that they have committed some resources to the city. He shared that one of the things the association is doing is showing a movie once a month at the Parkridge Center called *“Walking While Black”*. He says there has been really good discussion that has gone on before and after the movie in the two out of the three showings he has attended and that positive contacts are being made with people who are attending, approximately thirty people at a time.

Audience Participant Leah Mills-Chapman shared that the next date for the movie *“Walking While Black”*, based on her information, is July 26th at 10 a.m. at New Testament Baptist Church, 1230 W. Michigan Avenue.

Commissioner McCormick shared that New Testament Baptist Church is handicap accessible and is on the corner of Wallace and Michigan.

Police Chief DeGuisti stated that there is a lot of national narrative out there that doesn’t necessarily apply everywhere. He says he understands that people get conditioned by what they see on the 24-hour news cycle, and the police department has to battle against that all the time. As a result, he says he has to focus on the City’s 4-1/2 square miles because he can only effect change locally. Responding to discussion related to the decriminalization of

mental illness, he shared that he sits on the board of the Washtenaw County Diversion Council, that they have had three meetings so far and are deciding on how to use the funding provided through the millage for mental health and public safety county-wide. He stated that they are concentrating on how to reduce the number of people who are warehoused because of mental illness and substance abuse.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE: July 26, 2018, 7pm, City Hall Chambers

IX. ADJOURNMENT: 9:19 p.m.

Melke (second Wolkoff) moved to adjourn the meeting of the Police Advisory Commission.

Unanimous approval.

Motion carried.



City of Ypsilanti
POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

2018 Calendar of Meetings

The regular meetings of the City of Ypsilanti **Police Advisory Commission** for 2018 will generally be held on the **fourth Thursday** of each month, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (first floor) at One South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan. Dates for 2018 **Commission** meetings are as follows:

August 23
September 27
October 24 – Town Hall
November 29
December 20

The City of Ypsilanti encourages persons with disabilities to participate and will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) services, and audios of printed materials being considered at the meeting. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids or services should provide two (2) days' notice to the City, and contact the City by writing or calling the following:

City Clerk's Office
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197-5420
(734) 483-1100

All persons are welcome to attend. For further information on the Police Advisory Commission, contact the Office of the Chief of Police at 505 W. Michigan, or 734-483-8590, or <http://cityofypsilanti.com/671/Police-Advisory-Commission>



City of Ypsilanti
POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION
One South Huron Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

2019 Calendar of Meetings

The regular meetings of the City of Ypsilanti **Police Advisory Commission** for 2019 will generally be held on the **fourth Thursday** of each month, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (first floor) at One South Huron Street, Ypsilanti, Michigan. Dates for 2019 **Commission** meetings are as follows:

January 24
February 28
March 28
April 25
May 23
June 27
July 25
August 22
September 26
October 24

The City of Ypsilanti encourages persons with disabilities to participate and will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired, Limited English Proficiency (LEP) services, and audios of printed materials being considered at the meeting. Individuals requiring auxiliary aids or services should provide two (2) days' notice to the City, and contact the City by writing or calling the following:

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