



Police Advisory Commission
APPROVED MINUTES

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2018
7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

COMMISSIONERS:

Andy Fanta	Present
Heather Freeling	Present
Kathleen McCormick	Present
Susan Melke	Absent
Herman Humes	Present
Gail Wolkoff	Present

STAFF LIASION:

Police Chief Tony DeGuisti	Present
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III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner moved Freeling, seconded by Commissioner McCormick to approve the agenda

Commissioner Freeling moved, seconded by Commission Humes to add amending the date of the January Town Hall meeting.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the agenda was approved as amended.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

— November 29, 2018

Offered By: Commissioner McCormick; Seconded By: Freeling
Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1 (Melke)

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Police Advisory Commission
APPROVED MINUTES

VI. DISCUSSION OF SUGGESTED MONTHLY REPORT

- A. Motion for Committee as a Whole
Offered By: Commissioner McCormick; Seconded By: Freeling
Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1 (Melke)
- B. Report for Chief DeGiusti

Chief DeGiusti provided an overview to the type of data collection performed by the Police Department. He informed the Commission that data is not collected uniformly by different departments. He added everything that is reported to the state is reported voluntarily, and how crimes are coded can vary. He went through the list of data sets requested by the Commission and the possibility of being able to provide it.

Commissioner Wolkoff asked if the data collected regarding African Americans arrested on bench warrants was compared Caucasians arrested for the same reason. Chief DeGiusti responded in the affirmative, however, he is not aware of the results but there were arrests for that cohort group. He added the Department is directed to code each warrant to be count as an arrest. Meaning if a person apprehended with several warrants would constitute several arrests.

Chief DeGiusti stated the data collected would never be categorized by Ward. Wards are political boundaries within the city, and there is not a reason to record data in that manner. He can more easily to code data by street than by area because of how crime mapping is developed. He explained the department does not provide its own dispatch so there is no data present on how many calls of service for Fire and EMT.

Chief DeGiusti stated he could provide use of force reports to the Commission if requested. He added it would not be difficult because of how little force is used in the city. Commissioner Wolkoff asked how use of force would be defined. Chief DeGiusti responded a use of force is an overcoming of resistance, which is the only time an officer is allowed to use force.

Commissioner Fanta stated on the ride along he was a part of he witnessed a call for mental health. A member of Community Mental Health arrived and took over the situation. Once the situation was all clear the officer left, and he is not certain what came of the individual. Chief DeGiusti responded in most mental health issues the department would not know the end result. He added he could provide data on how many mental health calls the department receives, but not the outcome. Commissioner Humes asked if the department transports anyone to a mental health facility. Chief DeGiusti responded the department may or may not it would depend on the situation.

Commissioner Fanta stated he is not certain police training is relevant to this Commission's mission. This Commission is an advisory board not an oversight board. Commissioner Wolkoff responded it might be in the Commission's purview, but the more information the Commission has the more it can interrupt misinformation.

Commissioner McCormick asked if there is a reason the city should track data by Ward. She asked if it is because certain Wards fit a certain criteria, and asked if something is trying to be justified.

Police Advisory Commission
APPROVED MINUTES

Commissioner Fanta agreed most residents of the city are not aware the Ward they reside, even if they are actively voting. He asked if the purpose is to understand if a problem exists. Ms. McCormick responded it should not be the intent of creating a problem that might not exist.

Commissioner Herman asked if the intent is for this Commission to receive monthly reports regarding the criteria created by Commissioner Melke. Chief DeGiusti responded in the affirmative. Mr. Humes responded the development of this information would then need to be allocated to an employee of the department. Chief DeGiusti responded in the affirmative. Mr. Humes replied the department is lacking in personnel needed to mine this data and then create a report. Chief DeGiusti stated categorizing this data by Ward, and he will provide as much of this as he possibly can. Commissioner Wolkoff suggested categorizing the reports by neighborhoods. Chief DeGiusti replied the issue is there is no way to validate any of the variables for an accurate demographic study. Commissioner Fanta asked how that information would fit into the mission of this Commission. Ms. Wolkoff replied knowledge to counter blanketed comments regarding bias of the department. Commissioner McCormick responded she has to provide crime statistics to the Housing Commission and she uses crime mapping. Deputy City Clerk Hellenga suggested using Geographic Information System (GIS) to overlay the Wards on the crime map.

Commissioner Wolkoff asked if the number of cars at a scene indicate the intensity of the situation. Chief DeGiusti replied sometimes, but there are certain runs that will automatically send two cars. Also, another officer might stop to ensure everything is okay with the officer. Commissioner Freeling added when she was an officer she would often check on officers on a stop. Ms. Wolkoff asked if age is categorized in the arrest. Chief DeGiusti responded the report he provides the commission contain all arrests, including juveniles.

Chief DeGiusti suggested he review what information requested is accessible, and potentially add some things to the list and bring them to the commission.

Commissioner Freeling moved, seconded by Commissioner McCormick to exit Committee of a Whole.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the Commission exited the Committee of a Whole.

- C. Amend Date of January Town Hall Meeting to January 24th. (added)
Offered By: Commissioner Freeling; Seconded By: McCormick
Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1 (Melke)

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. WCSD/YPD: Interface

Commissioner Fanta offered to send a letter to the Sheriff's Department regarding the complaint process. Commissioner Wolkoff responded she no longer believes that to be necessary.

B. City Council Reports

Police Advisory Commission
APPROVED MINUTES

Commissioner Fanta stated he plans on reporting to Council at a meeting sometime in February. He informed the Commission on what he plans on reporting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

X. NEXT MEETING DATE

— Town Hall Meeting – January 24, 2019, Ypsilanti Senior Center, 1015 Congress

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Humes moved, seconded by Commission Wolkoff to adjourn the meeting.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.