



## **Community Policing Advisory Board**

### **Minutes**

**Thursday, April 13, 2023**

**Meeting was held at the Rockville City Police Station – 2 W. Montgomery Avenue**

**Members Present:** Donna Barnes, Michael Donahue, Lori Horkan, Matthew Perkins, Robin Prather, Rici Rutkoff and Michael Scott were present. Jaime Espinosa and Chiara Jaffe were absent.

**Staff Present:** Chief of Police Victor V. Brito and Police Executive Assistant Andrea Escher.

#### **I. Call to Order**

Chairman Perkins conducted roll call and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### **II. Motion to Approve Board Meeting Agenda**

**Motion:** to approve the April meeting agenda.

Moved by Board member Horkan, seconded by Board member Donahue, unanimously approved.

#### **III. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** to approve the March 2, 2023 meeting minutes.

Moved by Board member Donahue seconded by Board member Horkan, unanimously approved.

#### **IV. RCPD Updates & Meet RCPD**

Chief Brito introduced RCPD's new Mental Health Specialist, Ms. Beth Loftus. Ms. Loftus has extensive experience working with those with mental deficiencies and has an impressive list of credentials and educational background. She provided some background on her new position and how she is currently responding to mental health issues and concerns in the community.

**Motion:** to include a comment in the Annual Report expressing the CPAB’s support for the Mental Health Specialist position.

Moved by Board member Donahue seconded by Board member Horkan, unanimously approved.

## **V. CPAB Advocacy**

Marijuana Legislation Letter – Chairman Perkins noted he received letters from Mayor Newton and Councilmember Miles extending their thanks for the advocacy letter.

## **VI. Proposed CPAB Action Plan & Path Forward**

Board member Donahue presented his Action Plan for the CPAB. He stated he feels the Board needs to evaluate to determine what are the recommendations regarding the community policing services and develop an action plan of goals and objectives. He also noted that there should be a prioritized timeline for implementation of the recommendations so that it can be implemented successfully. There will be many factors to consider with the recommendation, to include feasibility, budget, and will it be a tangible benefit for the community. The overall goal is to strengthen and expand for the betterment of the community at large.

Some members noted a concern with the timeline, as the Board is soon preparing for summer break and that it is a lengthy document that needs additional time to review.

The Board will continue this conversation at their next meeting. Board members were asked to review pages 3, 4 and 5 for the May meeting and plan to vote for a specific implementation.

## **VII. New Business**

Public Safety Town Hall Meeting – Chief Brito advised the City of Rockville and RCPD will host a virtual Public Safety Town Hall meeting on April 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Escher will forward the virtual link and invitation to join the meeting to the Board members.

## **VIII. Next Meeting Date & Adjournment**

The next meeting of the CPAB will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 7:15 p.m. in person at the Lincoln Park Community Center.

**Motion:** to adjourn.

Moved by Board member Donahue motion seconded by Scott unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.