



CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

Community Oversight of Portland Police Bureau

City of Portland / City Auditor
Independent Police Review (IPR)
Citizen Review Committee (CRC)

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 (meetings are typically held the first Wednesday of each month)
Time: 4:00 pm * *Please Note: agenda times are approximate*
Location: Virtual Meeting

Present: Candace Avalos, Adam Green, Julie Falk, Ross Caldwell, Jihane Nami, Dana Walton-Macaulay, Sylvan Fraser, Taylor Snell, Vadim Mozyrsky, Chuck Lovell, Christopher Gjovik, Irene Konev, Josh Black, Debbie Aiona, Jared Hager, Carol Cushman, Alex Condon

AGENDA

5:30 pm–5:35 pm Introductions and Welcome (Acting CRC Chair Candace Avalos)

5:35 pm–6:00 pm Meet and Greet with PPB Chief Chuck Lovell

- He was born in Brooklyn New York. Has been with the PPB since 2002
- Previous positions: Patrol, School Resource Officer, Detective Division, Behavior Health Unit, Personnel, Adjutant at the Chief's Office
- Prior being promoted to Chief of Police he ran PPB Community Services Division
- Mr. Green asked Chief Lovell what is his initial assessment on PPB response to the ongoing demonstration?
 - We have thousands of peaceful protestors on the street every night pushing a real message of change. Unfortunately, we have a few hundreds of protestors who are more violent and throwing things and to engaging in confrontational behaviors with officers. My focus is to use whatever resources we have at our disposal to try and protect the lives and properties downtown
- Mr. Mozyrsky asked Chief Lovell how can community engagement be improved in PPB?
 - When I first started, we used to have district officers. They would have more relationship with the people within their district. They would stop and talk to people on the street. I want to get back to that where officers are more engaged into the community
- Ms. Falk asked Chief Lovell to talk more about his own background and how he wanted to be a police officer?
 - I wanted to be a police officer since elementary school. I used to work as a paper boy and going from house to house to collect money. I was able to have a distinct relationship with my neighbors. I remember the sense of responsibility to get the paper to them on time and collect their money. That really ingrained me in my neighborhood and knowing my neighbors. I really like the sense of connecting with my community. I joined the air force when I was 19 and live all over the places. I had a girlfriend who lived in Portland and decided to move here in 2000.

- Acting Chair Avalos asked Chief Lovell how does he thinks the community see of him now? She was appalled by journalists being attacked by the police.
 - There are two distinct looks in this. The majority of people protestors are peaceful while there's a small amount of people who try to engage in violent by throwing projectiles at officers. We don't want to be out there using CS gas against people. We were put in a position where we had to protect lives and properties. It is a tough position since the police was never designed to be face to face with people on the riot line. When I signed up to serve I want to be side by side with the community and help make the community better. The crowd control aspect of this is very difficult
- Mr. Snell asked Chief Lovell there has been several proposals for police oversight in Portland. He would like to know the Chief's perspective on that
 - I've seen a little bit of Commissioner Hardesty's proposal and it is vastly different than what we are having now. We've had civilian oversight in Portland for a while. We always have been agile and nimble.
- Acting Chair Avalos asked Chief Lovell what it would look like when a committee like the CRC making a recommendation to the Bureau. Is there a person who can serve as a liaison between CRC and PPB to make sure those recommendations are being implemented?
 - I don't know a person who can be a bridge right now. It is something that I have to put some thought to. I am a person who like to interact with people and hear their ideas. I look forward to collaboratively with the CRC
- Ms. Nami asked Chief Lovell how does he wants to establish a dialogue with various stakeholders who are organizing these demonstrations?
 - Traditionally, we have advisory councils and internal connections to the community. Those are based on specific demographic group or job like training and budget advisory councils. Through recurring meetings like PCCEP, IPAC, I see a lot of the same people at these meetings and I want to hear from other people who we don't normally hear from. There are 650,000 people in Portland and many of them don't really engage in political or social issues. I really like going out to the community to broaden the conversation
- Acting Chair Avalos made a comment to Chief Lovell that the Committee is having a community dialogue on crowd control next week Wednesday. The Committee will share the feedbacks with the Bureau
- Mr. Snell asked Chief Lovell if he had considered banning the use of CS gas toward protestors?
 - I don't want to use that stuff on anyone and there are many nights where we didn't use it. My position on this is that we use it as a tool to disperse people who are engaging in violence behaviors. Without CS gas, officers have to use baton to move people in close proximity and there's high potential for injuries
- Acting Chair Avalos asked Chief Lovell if there's any consideration for when police intervention is needed? People who are standing on the sidewalk protesting should be allowed. She doesn't even realize "bull running" is a tactic. It seems like for many people the tension gets escalated by the police. Does PPB have any protocol on which officers should be on a protest line?

- I am not an expert on tactics. There are tons of peaceful protestors every night and that is not a problem. The problem started when protestors acting up and start engaging in violence activities like starting fire and throwing things at officer that's when we start moving into another realm of tactic. There are instances where people have issues with how an officer handling thing, those complaints get investigated by IPR. When this is over there will be a lot of instances that we and IPR will look at to see whether officers acted appropriately. Even if it is not an issue of the officer doing anything wrong, we can still look at it and see if there's anything we can do better
- Mr. Mozyrsky asked Chief Lovell who make the call for officers to use CS gas?
 - That decision is made on the ground. I don't know if the decision has to be from a sergeant or whoever operating the launcher. I can find out and get back to you
- Acting Chair Avalos asked Chief Lovell if he is willing to reverse the decision to remove officer name on their uniform. The concern is that community members cant file a complaint if they cannot see the name of the officer
 - That is a good concern and I can look into that. Officers are using their personnel number so that people cannot google their names and find out where they live

6:00 pm–6:15 pm Director's Report (IPR Director Ross Caldwell)

- Mr. Mozyrsky asked Director Caldwell how the number of complaints from the protests will affect the CRC's workload down the road?
 - We already have couple of appeals currently pending. A big part of our investigation is timeline and we always try to get cases done within timeline. Given the volume of complaints right now, it will certainly affect our timeline, but the most important thing is that we need to do these cases well rather than getting them done quickly. At some point you will certainly see some appeals, but it will take a while. We are still processing complaints as they come in. We've opened 51 investigations as of today.
- Ms. Pomerantz made a comment she would like the City consider compensating committee members who are serving on various boards
- Director Caldwell made a comment CRC members are being asked to do quite a bit of work for the City
- Ms. Konev made a comment the Office of Community and Civic Life sent out a survey related to compensating community members couple months ago

6:15 pm–6:30 pm Chair's Report (CRC Acting Chair Candace Avalos)

- Acting Chair Avalos and Mr. Mozyrsky met with the Mayor on Monday. They had a discussion about the ongoing protest and the Mayor's 19-points plan. Acting Chair also express interests for CRC member to be involved in the PPA contract negotiation
- Acting Chair Avalos attended a community event related to the protest incident outside North Precinct
- CRC, TAC and PCCEP Chair put out a joint statement to the Mayor
- Acting Chair Avalos attended the meeting this past weekend related to the proposed ballot measure

- PCCEP is having a listening session on the future of oversight next Thursday. Acting Chair Avalos is one of panelists along with staff from IPR and the Auditor
- CRC Facebook page is up. Acting Chair Avalos and Mr. Green are currently managing it. Policy & Outreach Workgroup can use this as a tool

6:30 pm–7:30 pm New/Old Business

- Acting Chair Avalos made a comment she assigned each Committee members with a commissioner:
 - Commissioner Hardesty: Shaina Pomerantz, Adam Green, Taylor Snell
 - Commissioner Fritz: Hillary, Jihane Nami, Carol Johnson
 - Mayor Wheeler: Candace Avalos, Vadim Mozyrsky
 - Commissioner Eudaly: Julie Falk, Silvan Fraser, Andy Chiller
- Ms. Falk asked Acting Chair Avalos if she made contact with all the Commissioner or people assigned to each Commissioner will have to email them and provide an introduction?
 - I will send out an email to all the Commissioners
- Ms. Pomerantz asked Acting Chair Avalos if the Committee members will meet with the Commissioner or their staff?
 - The Commissioner
- Ms. Falk made a comment when she meets with a Commissioner in the past, a policy staff usually sat in those meeting

1. CRC email account

- Mr. Mozyrsky made a comment he has a City's email from his participation in the PCCEP. He found it very useful
- Mr. Green made a comment he supports the idea
- Ms. Falk asked if there's a privacy concern with City's email
- Mr. Nguyen made a comment the only issue is that Committee members will have to call in to reset the password since it is expiring every 3 months
- Mr. Pomerantz made a comment she is concerned about Committee members using their personal email accounts for CRC business the whole email account will be subjected to public records.
- Mr. Nguyen made a comment as long as Committee members Ccing him an email then he would be able to properly keep track of those emails for public records
- Acting Chair Avalos made a comment she will continue to use google drive to share documents among Committee members until the City tells her to stop. She would like all emails coming into CRC inbox be forwarded to her email
- The Committee agreed on having individual City email account
- Acting Chair Avalos asked Mr. Nguyen if Committee member would have an option for emails that are coming into their City's account be forwarded to their personal account
 - Yes

2. Discuss plans for CRC retreat

- Acting Chair Avalos will send out a Doodle calendar to find a best date for the retreat
- Acting Chair Avalos asking Committee members if they would like to open up the retreat to the public. In the past, the Committee held a closed meeting during the ice breaker part of the retreat and opened the rest to the public
- Ms. Falk made a comment she would like to open the retreat up to the public in the spirit of transparency

3. Discuss community dialogue on protests (July 8th at 5:30pm)

- Acting Chair Avalos asking Committee members to volunteer for different breakout room. One facilitator and one notetaker per room
- Ms. Pomerantz made a comment she is concerned about people having enough time to discuss in different break out room if there are a lot of attendees. She suggested having attendees registered ahead of time
- Mr. Snell, Mr. Green, Mx. Fraser, and Ms. Johnson made a comment they can attend.
- Mr. Snell and Ms. Johnson will be notetakers

4. Workgroup check-ins

- Acting Chair Avalos made a comment she had a discussion with Director Caldwell about combining the Recurring Audit workgroup with the Future of Oversight Workgroup. Ms. Nami is the only member currently on the Recurring Audit Workgroup
- Ms. Nami made a comment there might be a lot work with combining the two workgroups.
- Ms. Falk made a suggestion to rename the workgroup
- Mr. Mozyrsky made a comment he will join this workgroup
- Acting Chair Avalos made a comment the Recurring Audit Workgroup will need a new mission statement

5. CRC elections

- Mr. Mozyrsky nominated Acting Chair Avalos as Chair of the Committee. This was seconded by Ms. Falk:
 - Mr. Mozyrsky: YES
 - Mx. Fraser: YES
 - Ms. Falk: YES
 - Mr. Snell: YES
 - Mr. Green: YES
 - Ms. Johnson: YES
 - Ms. Nami: YES

- Ms. Avalos: YES
- Ms. Avalos is confirmed of Chair of the Committee
- Chair Avalos nominated Mr. Mozyrsky to be the Vice Chair of the Committee. This was seconded by Mr. Green:
 - Mr. Mozyrsky: YES
 - Ms. Fraser: YES
 - Ms. Falk: YES
 - Mr. Snell: YES
 - Mr. Green: YES
 - Ms. Johnson: YES
 - Ms. Nami: YES
 - Ms. Avalos: YES
- Mr. Mozyrsky is confirmed as Vice Chair of the Committee
- Chair Avalos nominated Mr. Green to be the Recorder of the Committee. This was seconded by Mr. Mozyrsky:
 - Mr. Mozyrsky: YES
 - Ms. Fraser: YES
 - Ms. Falk: YES
 - Mr. Snell: YES
 - Mr. Green: YES
 - Ms. Johnson: YES
 - Ms. Nami: YES
 - Ms. Avalos: YES
- Mr. Green is confirmed as a Recorder of the Committee

7:30 pm—7:45 pm Workgroup updates: Please provide the following information —

- 1) Brief summary of the goals and objectives of your workgroup
- 2) Date of last meeting
- 3) Brief summary of the work done at your last meeting
- 4) Next scheduled meeting
- 5) Main topic to be discussed/addressed at the next meeting
- 6) Any assistance from IPR or CRC needed to achieve your goals

ACTIVE WORKGROUPS

1. Outreach Workgroup (5 min.)

MISSION STATEMENT: The Outreach & Policy Workgroup engages the community to raise awareness about the Citizen Review Committee (CRC), gather concerns about police services and accountability, and identify issues for the CRC to address. Following up with appellants and others community requests will supplement current work group tasks. Additionally, outreach & Policy committee members will serve as point for ongoing communications with IPR, the City, the Bureau, community members and/or act as the face of CRC.

Chair: / Members: Vadim Mozyrsky, and Julie Falk

IPR staff: Irene Konev, Community Outreach Coordinator

- The workgroup will meet every 3rd Wednesday after the Crowd Control & Use of Force Workgroup meeting
- At the last meeting, the workgroup discusses outreach effort to organization that they workgroup had reached out in the past. The workgroup discussed some possible policies that they can look into

2. Recurring Audit (5 min.)

MISSION STATEMENT: The Recurring Audit Workgroup seeks to improve accountability of IPR and the Portland Police Bureau by reviewing closed cases to ensure procedures, policies and protocols are followed and will recommend improvements, if necessary.

Chair: / Members: Hilary Houck, and Jihane Nami

3. Crowd Control & Use of Force Workgroup (5 min.)

MISSION STATEMENT: The Crowd Control Workgroup examines existing crowd control policies, training, and tactics of the Portland Police Bureau, reviews crowd control best practices, legal standards and other information, and makes appropriate recommendations.

Chair: Candace Avalos /Members: Andy Chiller

- The Crowd Control forum notice will come out tomorrow. Next workgroup meeting is in 2 weeks

7:45 pm—8:00 pm Public comment and wrap-up comments by CRC members

- Mr. Handelman made several comments:
 - One of the way PPB to build trust is for PPB to stop using weapon against protestors
 - Ms. Aiona and him written an Op-Ed in the Oregonian
 - Copwatch had made a suggestion in the past for PRB to sit onto the CRC to help out with appeals
 - It is good for CRC members to participate in IPR policy review
 - The Recurring Audit Workgroup should be auditing IPR investigation files to make sure they are being done properly

8:00

Adjournment

To better serve you, a request for an interpreter or assisted listening device for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made three (3) days prior to the meeting—please call the IPR main line 823-0146 (or TYY 503-823-6868).

Visit the website for more information regarding the Independent Police Review division, Citizen Review Committee, protocols, CRC meeting schedules, and approved minutes: www.portlandoregon.gov/ipr.

CRC Members:

- 1. If you know you will not be able to attend a CRC meeting or that you will be missing a significant amount of a meeting, please call or e-mail IPR in advance so that the CRC Chair may be made aware of your expected absence.*
- 2. After this meeting, please return your folder so IPR staff can use it for document distribution at the next CRC meeting.*

**Note: agenda item(s) as well as the meeting date, time, or location may be subject to change.*