



Citizen Police Advisory Review Board Minutes

The Citizen's Police Advisory Review Board (CPARB) met on Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at 5:30 p.m., at the Main Library, Basement, 101 N. Stone Ave, Tucson, Arizona.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Members Present:

Susan Thornton, Chair
Stephen Nekolek
Suzanne Elefante
Jennifer Lopez
Joaquin Murrieta, Vice Chair
Barbara O'Brien

Representing:

Mayor
Ward 1
Ward 2
Ward 3
Ward 5
Ward 6

Members Absent:

Cynthia Schiesel Ward 4

Advisory Members Present:

Karen Brandel

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Present:

Assistant Chief John Leavitt, Tucson Police Department
Baird Greene, Principal Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
Robert Barton, Office of the Independent Police Auditor
Lieutenant Rick Hovden, Tucson Police Department

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Absent:

Assistant Chief Sharon Allen, Tucson Police Department
Captain Bill Richards, Tucson Police Department
~~Lieutenant Rick Hovden, Tucson Police Department~~
Sergeant Sharon Callan, Tucson Police Department
Sergeant Matt Ronstadt, Tucson Police Department
Liana Perez, Independent Police Auditor
Officer Steven Beller, Tucson Police Department

Others Present:

Antigane Foust, Tucson Police Department
Mike Thomas, Tucson Police Department
Officer Meredith Gierke, Tucson Police Department
Ana Smith, Secretary, City Clerk's Office

Chair Thornton announced Assistant Chief John Leavitt was in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes from Meeting of May 19, 2009

Motion by Suzanne Elefante duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 6 to 0, (Cynthia Scheisel absent), to approve the minutes of May 19, 2009, with the following corrections:

Page 3, Item #7B, should read: Lieutenant Rick Hovden stated Internal Affairs (IA) had a ~~quite~~ **quiet** month, couple of walk-ins and no extraneous concerns from Independent Police Auditor Mr. Barton.

Page 4, Item #9, should read: ~~Vice Chair Murrieta asked what an Education Day was.~~ **Vice Chair Murrieta stated he did not make the statement of “what an Education Day was” and wanted the minutes corrected.**

3. First Call to the Audience

There were no speakers.

4. Review of Citizen Comments submitted to Mayor and Council in reference to TPD for May as reported on June 1, 2009.

- a. The Board asked about comment number one, which dealt with a gem show dealer and how he was treated by security guards.

TPD stated they emailed the constituent to get more information regarding the comment in order to forward it to the correct department.

- b. The Board asked about comment number seven, which dealt with a constituent calling and stating that TPD had to enforce the removal of illegal immigrants in Tucson.

TPD stated that the police department enforced the law, and if legislation came forward and required more enforcement to take place with respect to immigration, TPD would do as the law directed. TPD said they made sure they did the most they could with respect to improving the overall safety of the community and that they allocated resources for it. TPD stated they made discretionary decisions regarding enforcement with community safety in mind.

- c. The Board asked, about comment numbers five and six which both dealt with constituents being upset with TPD on their response time.

On comment number five, TPD stated they left a message on the constituent's answering machine asking for more information, so the incident could be looked into and on comment number six there was no contact information.

5. Cold Case Presentation

Detectives Antigone Foust and Mike Thomas, Cold Case Division, spoke about the different areas in the Division. Detective Foust said the division had about three hundred cases and since they had been in the division, their department had made eleven arrests with the oldest case being from the 1960's and the newest case from 2006. They stated the Pima County Attorney's Office added additional staff to help resolve cold cases and they were working closely with them.

6. Office of the Independent Police Auditor

- A. Outreach Report: Report of public outreach efforts by the office of the Independent Police Auditor during the previous month.

Robert Barton, Office of the Independent Police Auditor (IPA), stated the IPA office had completed their move and constituents had been able to find the new location. He stated for the month of May there was no outreach done.

- B. Monthly Contacts: Report on TPD-related contacts by members of the public with the office of the Independent Police Auditor during the previous month.

Robert Barton, Office of the Independent Police Auditor (IPA), stated the office received six contacts and one complaint during the month of June 2009 was forwarded to IA for review. Mr. Barton performed random reviews of fifteen fair and thorough closed cases that were previously investigated by IA. He said IPA agreed with the findings of those cases. He mentioned that the City Clerk's office received a letter from Mr. Lojeck which was forwarded to the IA office and reviewed by the chain of command. He said that Mr. Lojeck would be advised of the findings.

7. Tucson Police Department:

- A. TPD Updates regarding events or developments relating to TPD during the prior month.

Assistant Chief John Leavitt stated, in the last several months, TPD had dealt with the deaths of several police officers and were trying to overcome each incident. He said Chief of Police Roberto Villasenor reorganized the department and had made several changes. A new organizational chart would be handed out at a future CPARB meeting.

- B. Office of Internal Affairs/Updates regarding events or developments relating to the Office of Internal Affairs during the prior month

Lieutenant Rick Hovden stated Internal Affairs (IA) had another quiet month, couple of walk-ins and no major concerns.

8. Non-Voting Advisory Board Member Selection subcommittee report

Chair Thornton stated Sub-Chair Schiedel, of the Non-Voting Advisory Board Member Selection Subcommittee was not in attendance.

The Board stated they believed Sub-Chair Schiesel wanted the interview letter approved so that it could be sent out.

Motion by Suzanne Elefante duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote 6 to 0, (Cynthia Schiesel absent) to approve Interview Letter.

9. Recess

Motion by Joaquin Murrieta, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 6 to 0, (Cynthia Schiesel absent), to forego recess.

10. Random Review of TPD Investigations:

- 1. Case# 08-0800

Motion by Joaquin Murrieta, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote 6 to 0, (Cynthia Schiesel absent), to find Case# 08-0800 to be a fair and thorough investigation.

- 2. Case# 09-0121

Motion by Joaquin Murrieta, duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote 6 to 0, (Cynthia Schiesel absent), to find Case# 09-0121 to be a fair and thorough investigation.

11. Second Call to the Audience

There were no speakers.

12. Report from Chair / Announcements

- A. Chair Thornton announced she received a letter from Chief of Police Villasenor letting her know that he would be speaking soon to the Board at a CPARB Meeting.

- B. Chair Thornton announced Lieutenant McShea was promoted to Captain. She said he worked with CPARB for a long time.

13. Future Agenda Items

- A. Touring the EPIC Center after a CPARB meeting at Operations Division South.

14. Adjournment – 6:15 p.m.

Motion by Joaquin Murrieta duly seconded, and passed by a voice vote of 6 to 0, (Cynthia Schiesel absent), to adjourn.