

Minutes of Hyattsville Police and Public Safety Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting on February 20th, 2021

[In attendance on the zoom meeting:](#)

[Minutes](#)

[Review minutes](#)

[Discuss draft language for motion to consider opinions from Hyattsville Council's informal workgroup on policing about a few police reform bills currently moving through Maryland General Assembly](#)

[Other items](#)

Chairperson Patricia Page called the meeting to begin at 5:11pm, with 5 members present (4 required for quorum); 6th member arrived after meeting began.

In attendance on the zoom meeting:

- Committee
 - Chairperson Patricia Page
 - Committee Member Bette Dickerson
 - Committee Member Mai Abdul Rahman
 - Secretary Joel Chan
 - Committee Member Maggie Brunner
 - Committee Member Mai Abdul Rahman
- Council / Liason
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee
- Other
 - 6 citizens in attendance

Minutes

● Review minutes

- Committee Member Maggie Brunner motioned to accept
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson seconded
- objections

- **Discuss draft language for motion to consider opinions from Hyattsville Council's informal workgroup on policing about a few police reform bills currently moving through Maryland General Assembly**

- Chairperson Patricia Page motioned to discuss
- Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee Hard to comment about details of bill right now, don't have a lot of details, but
- Committee Member Maggie Brunner: Confused about language on FOIA: is city of Hyattsville opposed to FOIA?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee not personally any objections to this
 - Committee Member Maggie Brunner suggests we request more clarification on FOIA exemptions
- Committee Member Maggie Brunner: What was data on SRO preferences based on?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee: from community survey
 - personal opinion, not official opinion of city of hyattsville: SRO program is great for relationship building, don't want it to go away entirely
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson what is the LEOBR?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee provides structure to do administrative discipline
 - if they rewrite it, should provide guidance for what to do what officers get in trouble, but before they are criminally convicted
 - Committee Member Bette Dickerson don't see anything in here about replacing: should probably replace?
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson re: broadened community support opportunities for transportation of individuals: what is mobile crisis response?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee beyond EMT and mental health responses, where do you take them? often beds are full in psychiatric wards
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson what do we mean by "bad actors"? a bit vague/general as is
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee beyond EMT and mental health responses, where do you take them? often beds are full in psychiatric wards

- Committee Member Mai Abdul Rahman current bill of rights allows officers to wait 5 days before interrogated by internal investigators, vs. 48 hrs in other states
- Committee Member Mai Abdul Rahman: how do we protect all the good that comes out of the SRO relationships, while limiting the militarization of our schools?
 - e.g., working on COVID task force, run by National Guard, but they're usually not dressed as national guardsmen; could something similar be done?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee our officers currently wear tan pants and polo shirts
 - Committee Member Bette Dickerson perception is that state-wide there are often problems, but in reporting often the exception is Hyattsville (there is something worth keeping here)
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee work hard to select the right people, everyone is DARE trained, they do more than just be a police presence in the schools, help to run safety programs like drunk driving
 - Committee Member Maggie Brunner: there are two critical things: 1) training, and 2) selection criteria
 - training is standardized, but selection criteria are not
 - some police chiefs (not ours)
 - we should really look at the bill and look closely at selection criteria
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee they are school board employees
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson should we add our voice to the document?
 - Committee Member Maggie Brunner: yes!
- There's some good discussion about the bill of rights - some consensus that there are problems with it as it stands, and so not necessarily opposed to repealing it, but would probably be a good idea to study the functions it serves re: providing a structure of accountability and ensure that something new is developed to replace the bill of rights in those functions.
- Committee Member Maggie Brunner volunteers to draft a set of responses and send around for edits/discussion
 - Secretary Joel Chan we should probably do an adhoc meeting to vote on the language to send back to the council, before the next council meeting on March 1st

- Other items

- Committee Member Mai Abdul Rahman: are internal investigations sealed, and if so, for how long?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee no
 - Citizen Emily Strab notes: the Route 1 reporter has released the report online
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson: any progress on investigation of carjacking spree?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee working on it, no results yet (haven't even found one of the cars that was stolen)
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson are all city employees vaccinated yet?
 - Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee getting there, currently working on Public Works (contact information has been sent in)
 - City workers are not required to get the vaccine, but we have ~70% intending to take it
- Liason Deputy Chief Scott Dunklee council just passed a budget that approved funding for BolaWrap
- Committee Member Bette Dickerson motion to adjourn at 18:26
 - Secretary Joel Chan seconded