

**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020 5:30 P.M.
MICROSOFT TEAMS**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Cannon
Nancy Chanin
Kelli Freeman
James Kevin McNally
Peter Sclafani
Willie Potts

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Nicholas Palmisano
Robert Safranski
LaToya Ratlieff
Wes Waring

STAFF PRESENT:

Javaro Sims, Chief of Police
Lawonda Warren, Police Legal Advisor
Beatrice Screciu, Executive Administrative Assistant

STAFF ABSENT:

GUEST OTHERS:

None

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. INTRODUCTIONS:

Members of the board were introduced.

4. APPROVAL AND/OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Mr. Paul Cannon, seconded by Ms. Nancy Chanin. Said motion passed unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020:

A motion was made to approve the minutes from September 14, 2020 by Mr. Paul Cannon, seconded by Mr. Peter Sclafani. Said motion passed unanimously.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Chief Javaro Sims' Update:

Members of the board were provided with Part 1 Crime Statistics for the current year and burglaries to vehicles and vehicle thefts have been the most significant issues. This is not just occurring in the city, but it is a nationwide crime trend, which will continue through the holidays. The Robbery Task Force has been deployed to increase police officer's visibility at high populated areas and shopping plaza during the holidays. There is a decrease in homicide crimes by 40% from 2019. There were five homicides in 2019 and three homicides in 2020. With regards to the reported overdoses, there is a total of 349 overdose incidents from January to November of 2020 in Delray Beach. There were two overdose deaths in November, bringing the total of overdose deaths for the year to 56. This is a major concern in the country, and we are working with outside agencies to educate and ensure that available resources are being provided to those in need.

The Delray Beach Police Department has implemented the Community Outreach Team last month. The Community Outreach Team is comprised of a service population advocate, two community outreach officers, one member of the South County Mental Health Center Rapid Response Team and one service population advocate intern. The objective of the Community Outreach Team is to connect and provide alternative diversion services to those who are dealing with mental illness, experiencing homelessness, or battling addiction. In addition to providing daily outreach to the community, the Community Outreach Team follows up with individuals who would benefit from alternative diversion services. The Community Outreach Team monitors daily reports to identify chronic individuals and work with them to implement strategies to improve their quality of life and reduce their interaction with law enforcement. Members of the Community Outreach Team are available to respond to calls for service when dealing with chronic persons experiencing a mental crisis, experiencing homelessness, or battling addiction. The SCMH Center Mobile Response Team defines a chronic client as anyone that we as an agency have encountered on more than two occasions for mental health reasons. The co-responder approach includes a member from the SCMH Center Mobile Response Team who will be stationed at the police department to provide coverage from 0800- 0001 hours. During these hours, the member of the SCMH Center Mobile Response Team will work directly with the Community Outreach Team. When members of the Community Outreach Team are not available, the SCMH Center Mobile Response Team member is stationed in an office in the front lobby of the police department and rides along with CIT officers. SCMH Center Mobile Response Team will be available for after hours by requesting a response via dispatch. The Community Outreach Team has made over 30 contacts since its inception.

The Community Oriented Policing team have been actively participating and organizing drive-by parades, essay competitions in schools, bike giveaways in the community.

Members of the board discussed how the police department has been impacted by COVID-19 and the moral of the agency. In addition, a discussion ensued regarding the process of distribution of the vaccine.

8. DISCUSSION CONCERNING NEXT MEETING AGENDA:

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2021.

9. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS/STAFF:

Board members inquired as to the board can assist the police department. It was noted that simple signs of appreciation (thank you note or email) for the officers and positive feedback go a long way and boost the morale of the agency.

A discussion ensued regarding the donation process to non-profit agencies from the law enforcement trust fund. A formal process is being implemented and an application has been developed. The application is being reviewed by the Legal Advisor's Office and will be available once the donation process is approved by the city manger and city commission.

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Ms. Freeman declared the meeting adjourned at 06:12 p.m.

Beatrice Screciu, Executive Administrative Assistant/Board Liaison

The undersigned is the Secretary of the Police Advisory Board and the information provided herein are the minutes of the meeting of said Police Advisory Board of December 14, 2020, which minutes were formally approved and adopted by the Board on February 8, 2021.

ATTEST:

CHAIR

Beatrice Screciu, Exec. Admin. Assistant/Board Liaison

NOTE TO READER: If the minutes you have received are not completed as indicated above, this means they are not the official minutes of the Police Advisory Board. They will become official minutes only after review and approval, which may involve some amendments, additions, or deletions.
S/City Clerk/Boards/Police Advisory Board/minutes