



COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 11, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

Completed by Chair Porter at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Current membership is at four. One seat is vacant. Three members are needed for quorum.

Commissioners Present: Robert Porter (Chair), David Hammontree (Secretary), Salena Taylor

Commissioners Absent: Thaddeus Williams (Vice Chair)

City Council Liaison Absent: Shalanda Hunt (Ward 5 Commissioner)

Staff Present: Sergio Garcia (Deputy Director of Police)

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Hammontree; Second by Taylor. Motion passes unanimously.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

(3-Minute Limit)

None

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of May 9, 2024 Meeting

Approval of May 9, 2024 and June 11, 2024 (Joint CPOC/REC Meeting)
Minutes - Motion by Taylor; supported by Porter. Motion passes

unanimously.

B. Minutes of June 11, 2024 Joint POC/REC Meeting

Approval of May 9, 2024 and June 11, 2024 (Joint CPOC/REC Meeting) Minutes - Motion by Taylor; supported by Porter. Motion passes unanimously.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Vacant Seat - Discuss Current Applications

Participants discussed current pool of applications and recruitment ideas.

B. Community Police Oversight Commission Ordinance Review

Sec. 21-100 (Findings) reviewed. Participants discussed the goals and mission of the commission with an emphasis on "re-framing the relationship that the residents of Jackson have with the police" as a constant focus of the commission's work.

Re-framing begins by acknowledging the cultural and general shifts in attitudes that may impact both perception of police in the community and police perception of the community. These perceptions are influenced by racial, socio-economic, and cultural disparities. Larger cultural trends also shape local-level perceptions. Such are the challenges that both the CPOC and the JPD share.

During the discussion, participants emphasized shared frustrations about perceptions and recognized the positive steps taken by the JPD toward public transparency and increased accountability. Community-oriented policing and community outreach initiatives were also examined.

The conversation concluded with the realization that open dialogue is an essential but often overlooked aspect of the work. This ongoing dialogue, though intangible, plays a crucial role. Regardless, commissioners will continue to address tangible objectives, such as policy revisions, public outreach activities, and social media engagement, while keeping in mind the ordinance's intention in the context of our own community's everyday realities.

Action Item: COPC members should come to the next meeting with at least one new idea to explore during the ordinance review.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update from Deputy Chief on Community Events

Deputy Chief Garcia gave an update on Community Events, including the Summer Safety Series and the upcoming National Night Out.

B. Discuss Potential for Another Joint Meeting with Racial Equity Commission

Chair Porter will contact the REC Chair.

C. Deputy Chief Garcia - Overview of Incident at Nite Lite on June 15, 2024

A review of this incident and its reception on social media was discussed.

8. CITY COUNCILMEMBER LIAISON COMMENTS

N/A

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Taylor: Gives thanks to the participants for a productive discussion.

Hammontree: Appreciates the open space for dialogue, which allows the commission to pursue pragmatic goals while also acknowledging broader cultural challenges, values, and attitudes. Understanding and respecting diverse perspectives is essential for engaging with these values and attitudes effectively.

Chair Porter: How can we influence in conjunction with JPD about perception in the community? Encourages commissioners to come to our next meeting with specific ideas related to the ordinance. What can we create together? What can we brainstorm?

10. DEPUTY CHIEF COMMENTS

Expresses appreciation in listening to perspectives that are outside the department but grounded in the community. Such perspectives help to gain a realization beyond

our everyday environments.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Porter, supported by Hammontree. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 8th at 6:00 p.m.