



COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 12, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

6:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Present: Robert Porter (Chair), Thaddeus Williams (Vice Chair), David Hammontree (Secretary), Salena Taylor (left meeting at 7:00 p.m.)

City Council Liaison Present: Shalanda Hunt (Ward 5 Commissioner, left meeting at 7:15 p.m.)

Staff Present: Sergio Garcia, Deputy Chief of Police

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- A. Motion from Hammontree to move New Business ahead of Old Business.
Seconded by Williams. Motion passes unanimously.
- B. Motion by Hammontree to approve adoption of agenda. Second by Williams.
Motion passes unanimously.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

(3-Minute Limit)

- A. No citizens in attendance.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of July 11, 2024 Meeting

Approval of July 11, 2024 minutes. Motion by Porter, supported by Williams. Motion passes unanimously.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Vacant Seat - No Applications Have Been Received Since April

No applications have been received since April.

B. Community Police Oversight Commission Ordinance Review - Continuation from July Meeting

i. Sec. 21.101 (Definitions)

1. The committee discussed and came to a common agreement on a working definition of "oversight" as related to governing. In such a role the terms relate to monitoring and advising with accountability as a focus.

ii. Sec. 21.102-1-8 (Created, purposes)

1. This section outlines the commission's general direction, focusing on policies and practices. Discussions included specifics on "input, guidance, and recommendations". Subsection 6 led to a conversation about the strategic missing and planning of the commission, highlighting the most important and practical aspects of the charter language.

iii. Sec. 21.103 (Duties, power, and responsibilities)

1. This section highlights goals for the commission's growth and visibility. Key aspects include outreach and generating community interest. Developing partnerships, especially with the Jackson County branch of Advocates and Leaders for Police Community Trust (ALPACT), is a strategic goal. Attending Ward meetings to gather public input and creating other event opportunities are also recommended.
2. Clarification needed on when "The Commission shall review and advise the Departmental budget before its submission to the City Manager." (21.103.g)

3. Section i also reminds the commission of the importance of an annual report to the Mayor and City Council.

iv. The Commission agreed to continue the review next month beginning with Sec. 21.104 (Investigatory Powers).

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Racial Equity Audit

Deputy Chief Garcia discusses the overview and expectations about the upcoming City of Jackson Racial Equity Audit. Information and updates will be shared at each meeting. Will begin sharing with the commission.

B. Recruiting Team - Events Attended

Deputy Chief Garcia reviewed at least 15 community events from this year attended by JPD officers and representatives for outreach and recruitment. The lack of responses to the recruitment efforts remains a concern. A discussion took place addressing various ways to address recruitment and follow-up. Suggestions offered included reaching out to the City's HR department for recruitment and outreach ideas. Some underlying issues about the peer pressure of recruitment were also discussed.

C. Identify 2 Dates/Times for Complaint Review Committee to Meet Before October's Meeting

i. The CR Committee agreed to meet on October 10, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

ii. A larger discussion also took place about the procedure for these reviews and the limits that the CPOC has. The consensus was to table concerns until the committee goes through the review process. After review of complaints, the committee can then have specific feedback on the process and a larger conversation may take place.

8. CITY COUNCILMEMBER LIAISON COMMENTS

9. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Secretary Hammontree: Conveyed regret that he will not be able to attend the October 10th meeting due to a professional conflict.
- B. Vice Chair Williams: Expressed hope for increased involvement and looks forward to continuing the review of the language and expectations in the ordinance. Emphasized the need to streamline the ordinance.
- C. Chair Porter: Highlighted the generation of good ideas during the meeting. Suggested increasing community contact and involving HR for JPD recruitment.

10. DEPUTY CHIEF COMMENTS

- A. Reviewed follow-up actions from this meeting, including conducting in-service training, moving policies online for public access, reaching out to the City of Jackson HR department to discuss recruitment, and exploring the role of the CPOC during community outreach events. Action items: Contact with Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT) leadership.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Williams at 8:14 p.m., Second Hammontree. Next Meeting scheduled for October 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.