

CHARLOTTESVILLE POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Date: October 12, 2023

Scheduled Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: City Space

Board Members Attending: William Mendez (Chair) Jeffrey Fracher (Vice Chair) George Dillard, Lakeshia Washington (Remote), Patricia Jones Turner (Remote), Charles Fleming (Remote), James Watson (Late).

Board Members Not Attending: Susan Krischel

Guests: Chief of Police Michael P. Kochis, Lieutenant Joey Lewis (Infrastructure and Technology & Criminal Investigations), Mr. Kevin Kane (Representative from Flock Safety).

Pamela O'Berry, Esq. - Sands Anderson PC – Independent Counsel for the PCOB

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM

Announcements: Chair Mendez notified attendees that the Board would be going into a closed session.

Approval of Agenda: Board Member Lakeshia Washington moved to approve the agenda without modification. Chair Mendez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes: Vice Chair Jeff Fracher moved to approve the August 10, 2023, Minutes without amendment, seconded by Member Lakeshia Washington. The motion passed unanimously.

***Pursuant to section 2.2-3712 of the Virginia Code, Vice-Chair Jeffrey Fracher moved that the Police Civilian Oversight Board close the open meeting and convene in a closed session, as authorized by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), for discussion related to performance of an employee of a public body. The motion was seconded by Chair William Mendez. The motion passed unanimously.**

The matter to be heard:

Executive Director's recommendation concerning a pending review request involving 3 complaints previously filed against Charlottesville Police Department personnel.

Vice-Chair Jeffrey Fracher moved that the Board certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard. The motion passed with 5 yes votes. Member James Watson abstained.

Chair William Mendez (having yielded the gavel) moved that the Board accept the Executive Director's recommendation concerning the review request. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chair Jeffrey Fracher. The motion passed with 5 yes. Member James Watson abstained.

Guest Speaker Presentation: Lt. Joey Lewis made a PowerPoint Presentation concerning the Flock Program and Chief Kochis provided the rationale behind recommending its implementation. Mr. Kane answered questions regarding Flock.

Public Comments (First): Ruby Cherian (Civil Rights and Racial Justice Fellow Legal Aid Justice Center) recommended the Flock Program not be implemented by the Charlottesville Police Department.

Mr. Jeff Fogel, Esq. recommended that the Flock Program not be implemented by the Charlottesville Police Department.

Executive Director's Report:

Professional Standards Division

External Complaints

2 Complaints August 2023 (Pending)

3 Complaints September 2023 (Pending)

PCOB Complaints

0 Complaints for August / September 2023

Review Requests

None

Community Outreach

Halloween Celebration at Westhaven Community Center

Public Comments (Second): Mr. Jeff Fogel, Esq. provided additional comments and expressed concerns regarding the Flock Program.

Adjournment: Member George Dillard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member James Watson. Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at approximately 7:35 PM.