



**City of Davis**  
**Police Accountability Commission Meeting**  
**Monday, April 6, 2020**

**MINUTES**

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*Commissioners Present: Mary C. Bliss (Vice Chair), Sean Brooks, Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald, Dillan Horton (Chair), Abram Jones, Judith MacBrine, Don Sherman*

*Commissioners Absent: Elaine Kahan,*

*Others Present: Kelly Stachowicz, Carrie Dyer, Michael Gennaco, Lucas Frerichs, Gloria Partida*

**1. Call to Order**

*Horton called the meeting to order at 6:40*

**2. Approval of Agenda**

*Escamilla Greenwald moved with a second by MacBrine, approval of agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.*

**3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons (5 minutes)**

- *Stachowicz - Interested in commission feedback on how (remote by Zoom) meeting works.*
- *MacBrine – Commission condolences to Escamilla-Greenwald for the passing of her brother.*
- *Brooks – Local chapter of People Power reached out to subcommittee – would like to meet regarding concerns on surveillance policy. Look into working group with Future Privacy Forum.*
- *Horton – Grateful to commission members for continuing on work plan during crisis situation. Suggests commissioners listen for police action in regards to shelter in place compliance, etc.*
- *Frerichs – Council discussed item on surveillance cameras for City and license plate technology. All items that PAC raised were helpful in Council discussion. Council decided on installing cameras at four major intersections in town, but without automatic license plate reader technology.*

**4. Public Comment**

*Aarya – Student at UC Davis and member of Hope At Davis, concern about policing and removing of homeless encampments during pandemic. Multiple agencies are removing codes during this time and wanting City of Davis to do something similar.*

## 5. Consent Items

### A. Approval of Minutes – March 2, 2020 Meeting

*Escamilla Greenwald moved, with second by Bliss, to approve the minutes*

*AYES: Bliss, Brooks, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, MacBrine, Sherman*

*NOES: None*

*ABSENT: Kahan*

## 6. Regular Items

### A. Chair Report on Discussion with Police Chief

*Horton reported on discussion with Police Chief Pytel about navigating the relationship between Davis Police Department (DPD) and the Commission (PAC) on technical advice and officer attendance at the Commission. The Police Chief committed to provide department policy information to the Commission. They talked about timing and lead time so that the Commission has time to review information. Chief suggested that PAC make a statement of how interactions could be structured between PAC and DPD.*

*Commissioners discussed the issue, providing comments:*

- *Incorporate into work plan*
- *DPD did not identify what it wanted in terms of public outreach meetings.*
- *Consider subcommittee to serve as liaison between PAC and DPD.*
- *Goal to build relationship with DPD for the public and be go-between.*
- *Consider quarterly meetings.*
- *Develop a plan to determine proposal on format for communication with Chief and key people.*
- *Consider shared goals – procedural justice*
- *Keep relationship between PAC and DPD from being bureaucratic.*

*Public Comment: No public comment*

*Horton clarifies that PAC needs to establish a strategy for working with DPD. Thought that there should be plan for DPD participation in discussion on certain agenda items that PAC can gather information (technology and policy) to help with their decision making on agenda items in future.*

*Stachowicz – When there is a technical item on agenda and PAC is being asked to weigh in, staff liaison and auditor will only be able to respond to a certain extent. Technical questions will be better answered by someone who works in DPD.*

*Ideas that the Commission considered:*

- *Have DPD representative participate virtually.*

- *Place item on agenda with notification that police presence will be at the meeting to address technical issue.*

*Horton moved, with a second by Sherman, that the PAC would ask the police chief or designee or attend PAC to provide information on specific agenda item.*

*Additional Comments:*

- *Post specific logistics and information as to when DPD will be in attendance. Will be helpful and informative to those who are concerned.*
- *Broadcast the meeting.*
- *Ask Chief to schedule visits to the Commission (ie quarterly or on another regular timeframe) and adjust as needed.*

*Re-open public comment due to extensive conversation after motion*

*Luanna Villanueva – Is comfortable with police in attendance for the agenda item that they are there for.*

*Motion passed by the following vote:*

*AYES: Bliss, Brooks, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, MacBrine, Sherman*

*NOES: None*

*ABSENT: Kahan*

## **B. Discussion of 2020 Workplan**

*Bliss gave re-cap of work to date on work plan creation, noting that the draft plan currently includes more than can be done in one year. Commission discussed time commitments of individual commissioners to help inform feasible workplan. Suggestions included:*

- *Scheduling an additional meeting during the month*
- *Subcommittees of smaller groups to do outreach with smaller groups of community members*
- *Check in with different segments of the community*
- *Link a commissioner (or commissioners) with specific items on the work plan based on time and interest.*

*Public Comment- No comment*

*Bliss moved, with a second by Escamilla Greenwald, for each commissioner to submit to staff the amount of time available for commission activities each month and what items you are interested in working on.*

*Sherman questions procedurally how agenda is created each month. Staff responded that staff meets with chair and vice chair each month to determine what items are priority. Commissioners provide future agenda item topics during future agenda item discussion.*

*Motion passed as follows:*

*AYES: Bliss, Brooks, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, MacBrine, Sherman*

*NOES: None*

*ABSENT: Kahan*

## **7. Police Auditor Update**

*Gennaco provided update on Independent Police Auditor (IPA) activities. Provided perspective on policing and how it's been impacted during pandemic. Good news in Davis is that the community is mostly complying with Shelter in Place. DPD is encouraging the community to report non-violent crimes online instead of in-person interactions. Officers are using their discretion to cite and release instead of arrest. Bail reduced by courts. Department is working to keep station and police cars as sterile as possible.*

*Nationwide there are controversies over calls for service and whether a dispatcher can ask if anyone involved is positive for Corona virus. Concern that positive response will result in no service from police and negative response potentially endangers officers and others. Nationally, there is discussion as to whether the oversight profession is an essential function during this time.*

*Escamilla-Greenwald - Could be misconduct and crimes due to fear or biases during this time. Auditor and oversight is really needed during this time.*

*Horton – asks Gennaco regarding issue of homeless question raised during public comment.*

*Gennaco – His understanding is that there is not enforcement currently in regards to encampments. Resources lacking for how to have houseless people tested and how to move people into quarantine if they are positive.*

*Frerichs – Stated that the City is working with County to house the homeless in Davis in local hotels. Working with Communicare to help notify homeless individuals that the jurisdictions are trying to provide temporary housing.*

*Stachowiz provided update on Davis' Homelessness Respite Center services. Nurse coming in three times a week to assess symptoms and test if necessary.*

*Public Comment-*

*No public comment*

*MacBrine – When Davis RIPA data available? News on implementation on Gennaco recommendations?*

*Gennaco – has not heard about release of data or recommendation implementation.*

*Sherman – What can officers do to protect themselves during their interactions?*

*Gennaco – Officers typically practice social distancing, with the exception during hands on arrest. Minimize situations where individuals need to be in custody. Be as sanitary as possible.*

## **8. Future Agenda Item Requests/Long Range Calendar**

*Stachowicz requested that information on time commitment question be returned by April 20.*

*Escamilla – Greenwald – asked for follow up on DPD implementation of the auditor recommendations.*

*Future Items include: Workplan follow up, RIPA data, Auditor recommendations.*

## **9. Adjourn**

*Escamilla-Greenwald moved and Brooks seconded adjournment at 8:53 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.*

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