



City of Davis
Police Accountability Commission Minutes
Monday, May 3, 2021

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Horton called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Ignacio Alarcon, Robert Canning (arrived at 6:36), Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald, Dillan Horton (Chair), Abram Jones, Elaine Kahan, Judith MacBrine (arrived at 6:43) Morgan Poindexter (Alternate), Don Sherman

Commissioners Absent: Mary C. Bliss (Vice Chair)

Council Liaisons Present: Mayor Partida

Others Present: Kelly Stachowicz, Michael Gennaco, Carrie Dyer

2. Approval of Agenda

Sherman moved with second by Alarcon approval of the agenda as presented. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, Kahan, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bliss, Canning, MacBrine

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

- Welcome and introductions to new Alternate Commission Morgan Poindexter*
- Horton/Escamilla-Greenwald met with Finance Commissioner to learn more about costs associated with Time for the Nine recommendations.*
- Horton recognition of verdict of Chauvin trial in the death of George Floyd.*
- Escamilla-Greenwald inquired about information regarding the art that went missing from the Solidarity Space in Central Park.*
- Sherman suggested article titled "Just Let Him Get Away"*
- Partida attended rally, important to have conversations and provide space for the community to discuss.*
- Partida suggests that commissioners help community members understand where the council is in the process of reviewing the Time for the Nine recommendations.*

4. Public Comment

- Marilee Eusebio – Wish well with work*
- Todd Bailey – Police mistakes can harm or kill people, specifically people of color. Ask commission to inquire with Police Chief about review of shootings and take action*
- Lupita Torres – Doesn't feel that Police Chief represents beliefs of Davis and asks for formal investigation into previous incidents at high school. Noted systemic racism in Yolo County.*

- *Connor Gorman – Events this month – Abolition May. National movement to have remove police from university campuses. Today was National Day of Refusal.*
- *Madison Taggart – Offer alternative to police stops, like Berkeley.*
- *Victoria Dearborn – Will take time to build trust with institutes and systemic racism.*
- *Anna Kawiecki – Alternate number for mental health calls? Next steps for nine recommendations?*

5. Consent Items

Canning moved with second by Escamilla-Greenwald approval of the minutes from April 5, 2021 as presented. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, Kahan, MacBrine, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bliss

6. Police Auditor Update

Independent Police Auditor Michael Gennaco provided an update on Auditor activities to the PAC, including updates on current projects, such as the audit of Eight Can't Wait activities and a review of April 2021 investigation report. The subcommittee on the audit will meet this month.

Commissioner Comments:

- *Clarify residence of complainant*
- *What is recourse when not getting all of the information you need for investigation?*
- *Should pursuits be stopped?*
- *Can we get documented information on how often Tasers are used? Audit will respond to Taser use. No complaints received by Auditor at this time.*

Public Comment:

- *Connor Gorman – Concern that regular people are expected to act calm when interacting with people, despite lack of training that police receive. Need to address structural changes and think about system as a whole.*

7. Regular Items

A. Update on the April 6 City Council Discussion on Reimagining Public Safety – *The City Council discussed the Reimagining Public Safety recommendations at their April 6 meeting and provided direction to staff. Two Council subcommittees created.*

- Look at department operations to see if there are some that could be moved into another department (parking, code enforcement)*
- What are next steps City should be taking with Yolo County in terms of mental health services*

Work is being done at staff level right now and will return within 6 months to Council. Currently Homeless services will be moving out of Police Department to under the City Manager's Office. Karen Larson, of Yolo County, will be presenting to the City Council on Mental Health Services.

Commissioner Comments:

- *What is separation of subcommittees and how do they come together later in the process?*
 - *Organizational Structure*
 - *Pragmatic Features*
- *Suggestion to tap into commission members with expertise in these areas*
- *PAC involved in survey, structure and scope*
- *Will the work that Mike Gennaco is doing be included in the report?*
- *Working hard to make sure that information is not gathered in silos, look to see what has worked before and what has not worked before.*
- *Pamphlet that we have, put in different areas with information on how people can access.*
- *Connection to the budget? Timeline?*
- *How does engagement between PAC and PD work?*
- *Community Navigators – there are people in our community, specifically in non-profit organizations that do play that role, Empower Yolo, Mutual Housing, etc. Would like to coordinate and inventory resources that we have available.*
- *Keep in mind public/private/nonprofit relationships. Does not all need to fall under government services.*
- *Don't lose sight of traffic enforcement. Much of angst stems from traffic stops.*

Public Comment:

- *Connor Gorman – Recommends creating an independent department of health and public safety to include homeless services. Community navigators are separate from crisis responders.*

B. Update from the Outreach Subcommittee (*Kahan, Escamilla Greenwald, Sherman, MacBrine*) *The Commission formed this subcommittee at the April meeting to consider up to three community engagement opportunities/ideas and hold additional discussion at the full Commission meeting.*

Identified Topics

- *Know your Rights*
- *How to be a good community member*
- *How to work with the police if you have a loved one/are a person with mental health/cognitive issues*
- *Bias by proxy/Community Watch*
- *What happens when you make a complaint to the police*
- *Larger context on police issues: National Look, California Look, Davis Look*
- *Mental Health First Aid*
- *How the police deal with their own mental health*

Logistics:

- *Having in local meeting areas*
- *PAC Facebook, Twitter feed*
- *Public Access TV*
- *KDVS*

- Zoom, Facebook Live, Podcast
- Coordinate with Police Chief, 600 signatories
- Inviting people who are not usual voices
- Clarify intended outcomes

Commissioner Comments:

- PAC newsletter to send out
- Starting place could be identifying which categories of outreach we want to pursue.
- The topics 1) Know your rights; 5) know your power (how to make complaints and 6) what happens on the national level are relevant
- Focus groups that people indicate what they are interested in
- Know Your Rights – assign to subcommittee?
- Interactions with police as a topic
 - Catalog historic community outreach efforts
 - Interaction survey
 - Specific incidents that community members want to share
- Have outreach subcommittee work on Know Your Rights
- Possible to have links on PAC page for people to watch?
- Come up with plan for next six months for what outreach committee recommends
- How does incident in media or a national occurrence and talking about how it would apply to Davis and be handled.
- What Happens When You Make a Complaint About the Police

Public Comment:

- AB – Feels like policing is focused more on groups or people more than crime.

Canning move to extend meeting until 10:00 p.m. with second by Escamilla-Greenwald.

Motion passes as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, Kahan, MacBrine, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bliss

C. Update and Discussion from Mental Health Subcommittee *(Bliss, Canning, MacBrine, Escamilla Greenwald) – The Commission formed this subcommittee at the April meeting to begin work on the Commission’s interest to look into the intersection of law enforcement and mental health.) Commissioner MacBrine provided a handout with information on the approach to a mental health audit.*

Commissioner Comments:

- Document focuses on Mental Health issues
- Commissioners can send comments and thoughts to Auditor directly

Public Comment:

- *None*

MacBrine moved with second by Canning to request the Independent Police Auditor conduct a Random Audit: Sample of Ten 5150 Calls or ten calls that were determined as mental health calls. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, Kahan, MacBrine, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bliss

8. Future Agenda Item Requests/Long Range Calendar

- *Local Voices project on police interactions and how PAC might participate*
- *Budget of Davis Police Department and what they produce for budget given. Economic value of police department vs. value of social services*
- *June –Auditor update*
- *June- Update on Karen Larson presentation summary*
- *Information on task forces that DPD participates in with other agencies – hear from Chief.*

Public Comment:

None

9. Adjourn

Sherman moves with second by Escamilla-Greenwald to adjourn at 9:49 p.m. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, Kahan, MacBrine, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Bliss