



City of Davis
Police Accountability Commission Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2023
MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Escamilla Greenwald called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Commission Members Present: Mary C. Bliss, Robert Canning (Vice-Chair), Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald (Chair), Dillan Horton, Logan Legg, John Myers, Don Sherman

Commission Members Absent: None

Council Members Present: Councilmember Partida

Others Present: Assistant City Manager Kelly Stachowicz, Management Analyst Carrie Dyer, Independent Police Auditor Michael Gennaco

2. Approval of Agenda

The Local Voices item will be moved to March.

Canning moved, with a second by Horton, approval of the agenda. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Legg, Myers, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

- Councilmember Partida is the council liaison to the PAC. Mayor Arnold is the alternate.*
- The District 3 Council vacancy will be filled by an all-mail election in May.*
- The Campus Community Book Project is having an event on February 7.*
- The PAC is technically a 9-member commission, but currently has 7 members, similar to other commissions. Interested to learn thoughts on PAC going to 7 with an alternate.*

4. Public Comment

- Carol Gavin – Concern about storm and checking in on seniors or disabled people who live alone. Other agencies have public safety do wellness checks. Wondering what City of Davis has in place, if anything.*

5. Consent Items

Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2022 Meeting

Sherman moved, with a second by Canning, approval of the consent calendar. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Legg, Myers, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

6. Police Auditor Update

Independent Police Auditor Michael Gennaco provided an update on Auditor activities to the PAC.

- *The Mental Health audit is close to being finalized and should be ready soon.*
- *New state law SB 2, went into effect, regarding certification of officers by POST. Certification can be withdrawn if POST determines that an officer has committed misconduct as defined by the statute. POST can also discipline. Any person can make a complaint independently, directly to POST. As a new law, there are still logistical details to work through.*
- *Question about complaint investigations log and if there will be an updated coming soon. Staff and the IPA will reach out to Chief Pytel to inquire.*

Public Comment:

- *Carol Gavin – Suggestion that civilians do paperwork that officers currently have to do*

A. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023 – Commission elected its leadership for 2023. New Chair and Vice Chair will start in February.

*Escamilla-Greenwald nominated Canning for Chair
Canning nominated Escamilla-Greenwald for Vice Chair*

*Public Comment:
None*

*Horton moved that Canning be Chair and Escamilla-Greenwald be Vice Chair with second by Sherman. Motion passed as follows:
AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Legg, Myers, Sherman
NOES: None
ABSENT: None*

B. Subcommittee Updates

- a. Hate Free Together Initiative** (Legg, Horton, Myer) – *The Subcommittee provided an update on their review of the Hate Free Together Initiative. At this time, there is no recommended changes to the resolution. There is interest in the PAC and the HRC having a voice in the roll out of the Hate Free Together Initiative. The subcommittee will pause until there is more direction from City.*

Public Comment
None

- b. Annual Police Auditor Review** (Bliss, Horton, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald) – *The Subcommittee will review soon. Staff will send out past evaluations to the subcommittee and request feedback from the commission to include in the review.*

Public Comment
None

C. Local Voices Project – The Commission will receive a presentation and discuss the Local Voices Project – This item postponed to March

D. Follow Up Discussion from Mental Health Clinician Presentation – In November, the Commission received a presentation from the Crisis Outreach Clinician assigned to

Davis. The Commission discussed follow-up questions to ask the Police Department and subsequently, any recommendations for the City Council.

Commissioner Comments/Questions

- Concern about having only one clinician for our larger population vs. other communities having more.
- What happens in the off hours? Who responds to the calls?
- If we had an additional clinician, do they off set each other hours?
- Curious about numbers of contact in other municipalities to justify having an additional clinician.
- Question for DPD – staffing wise, do you feel you have capability of handling the calls in the clinician off hours?
- Continue to think about support of people with disabilities in conjunction with police services.
- Interested to learn how interaction happens with people who don't speak the same language as the officer.
- Staff suggests that, if Commission concurs, staff can bring back additional information next month, to go along with Mental Health Audit report next month for full commission review and discussion for potential recommendations to City Council.

Public Comment:

- Carol Gavin – Supports having an additional clinician. Would like to hear more about support of people with varying disabilities, both physical and mental.

E. Discuss Possible Future Audit Topics

The Commission has set a goal to recommend to the Independent Police Auditor work on at least one audit per year. The Commission continued its December discussion about potential topics and reviewed the results of the survey feedback from the Commission.

- Survey results indicated that “Shots Fired” calls was the top choice for the next audit, followed by Hiring Practices/Policies.
- Clarification that the audit topic would be for calls reporting hearing shots fired.
- Ask Chief if annual report will produced this year
- 2022 RIPA report was recently released by the DOJ with a 10 page executive summary that may be of interest to the commission. Smaller agencies are required to report beginning this year, 2023.
- Is there data that supports a diverse police department results in less discrimination in contacts/arrests/etc.
 - There is data that supports that diverse departments gain more trust from communities.
 - Demonstrated data that women officers are far less engaged in use of force.

Public comment:

NJ Mvondo – Challenge department to go beyond ethnic group diversity and additionally look for outreach experience with sensibility in working with people with varying disabilities. Look at recruitment package to see if competitive.

Carol Gavin – Supports audit topic and look at interpersonal skills and look at who is applying at the City of Davis.

Bliss moves with second by Horton to have hiring practices as the next audit.

Commissioner comment to consider calling it hiring challenges and unmet needs instead.

Bliss modified motion to have the 2023 audit on hiring practices to include hiring challenges; current practices, and unmet needs. Horton seconds. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Legg, Myers, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

8. 2023 Workplan/Future Agenda Item Requests/Long Range Calendar (10 minutes)

Commission will discuss its 2023 Workplan at future meeting

Identify subcommittee for 2023 audit -February

Local Voices – March

Mental Health Audit Review – February

Could PAC have a joint meeting with the UCD police accountability board?

Would need Council authority to have joint meeting.

Consider reading opinion documents in packet:

Best practices in police departments

Mental attitude about shortfall in staffing and difficulties in recruitment

Mental health about officers

Public Comment:

Carol Gavin – Suggestion for PAC to have meeting with UC Davis students.

9. Adjourn

Canning moves with second by Horton to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. Motion passes by consensus.