



MEETING MINUTES

Chief's Advisory Committee

Thursday, May 14, 2026

The Thursday, May 14, 2026 Chief's Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting was called to order by Chair Hollie at 5:35 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 5555 Perimeter Drive. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Lisa Baer, Ron Barnes, Luke Powell, Alex O'Ryan, Dwayne Maynard, Gaurav Goel, Kimberly Hollie (Chair), Chitra Goyal

Committee Members Absent: Zhen Xing, Emmet Apolinario (V. Chair)

Staff Present: Chief Páez, Deputy Chief (D. Chief) Tabernik, D. Chief Lattanzi, Officer Wentz

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chair Hollie asked for additions or corrections to the 04-29-2026 minutes of the Chief's Advisory Committee meeting. There were none.

CP Goyal raised a question stemming from the prior meeting's discussion on burglary, asking how frequently the department is able to identify and apprehend those responsible for residential and vehicle-related burglaries. Chief Justin Paez responded that while he did not have a specific clearance percentage available, the department had filed charges in three or four incidents within the past month involving either attempted entry or confirmed offenses. He emphasized that officers work diligently to respond quickly and pursue all available leads until accountability is achieved.

CP Barnes raised a procedural question regarding how follow-up items identified in prior meeting minutes — specifically the previously discussed CAD/RMS system replacement project — are tracked and brought back before the committee. Chief Paez clarified that such items are coordinated with the chair and vice chair and scheduled according to the project's timeline, budget cycle, and seasonal considerations. CP Barnes indicated that his question was one of process only and that he found the minutes themselves to be accurate.

Community Partner (CP) Maynard moved, CP Baer seconded approval of the minutes.

Vote: CP O'Ryan, yes; Chair Hollie, yes; CP Maynard, yes; CP Barnes, yes; CP Powell, yes; CP Gaurav Goel, yes; CP Baer, yes; CP Chitra Goyal, yes.

[Motion carried 8-0.]

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Chief Paez returned to an item left unresolved from the April meeting regarding the nonbiased-based policing annual administrative review. During that meeting, three of four recommendations from the 2024 report had been addressed. Chief Paez reported the fourth and final recommendation, which concerned the analytical methodology to be applied when using 2025 data in 2026.

The recommendation from the department's law enforcement planner was that a more heuristic approach be adopted, analyzing suspicious person and traffic stop data through sex, race, and age independently rather than in compounded layers. The planner's assessment was that combining these demographic variables — for example, examining race broken down further by sex and age simultaneously — does not yield additional analytical value and in fact over-complicates the analysis. As a result, the department did not continue with the layered approach in the 2025 analysis.

CP Baer observed that it was somewhat counterintuitive that separating categories would be described as more complex, though she noted she could understand the rationale in the context of presentation and reporting clarity. Chief Paez clarified that the increased complexity arose not from separation but from the layering of multiple variables simultaneously.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Update on Memorial Tournament Safety Plan**

D. Chief Tabernik presented a high-level overview of the safety and security planning for the Memorial Tournament, which takes place the week following Memorial Day. He noted that the tournament is one of three major annual events in the city, alongside the Fourth of July celebration and the Irish Fest, and that planning for this year's tournament had been underway since February.

D. Chief Tabernik described the department's primary objective during the tournament as maintaining high visibility to ensure that all attendees — including residents, visitors, PGA officials, and golfers — feel safe and know that law enforcement is readily accessible. He noted that the tournament has historically been a very safe event.

The event is organized under a supervisory structure covering distinct areas including the clubhouse, gate entry points, and the front and back nine of the course. Gate areas are staffed by both officers and private security personnel who conduct bag checks and use magnetometers. The department utilizes both traditional pedal bicycles and e-bikes extensively during the tournament, with Officer Patrick Wentz among those assigned to bike patrol. Drone assets, including both standard police drones and the department's drone-as-first-responder program, are also deployed.

D. Chief Tabernik outlined the department's extensive law enforcement partnerships. Columbus Police Department's counterterrorism unit provides drone detection technology — now in its second year of use — which allows personnel to identify unauthorized drones operating within the temporary flight restriction zone above the tournament. Authorized drone operators include Dublin Police, CBS, and PGA. Franklin County Sheriff's Office, Delaware County Sheriff's Office, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol also provide support, with the highway patrol handling perimeter traffic and the two sheriff's offices providing deputies integrated into the overall law enforcement

operation. The course spans portions of both Franklin and Delaware counties, which informed the selection of those jurisdictions. The FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force also maintains a presence at the event. A Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) analyst will be embedded on-site for the first time this year to provide real-time intelligence and data mining capabilities should a threat requiring immediate analysis arise.

On the non-law enforcement side, Heinz Van Eckersberg — a former Dublin Police Chief and current Director of Safety for the Memorial Tournament — coordinates the private security components. Four private security providers are contracted for the event, primarily for gate operations and internal coverage, with one also providing personal security for the golfers.

A new communication center is being established this year, adjacent to the existing command post, to centralize information sharing across all law enforcement and private security entities. Because each entity operates on different communications channels, a representative from each organization will be stationed in the communications center to facilitate rapid information relay in the event of a significant incident.

CP Goel raised the issue of swatting and hoax threats, asking whether the Department had specifically considered that risk in its planning. D. Chief Tabernik confirmed that the topic had been addressed directly at the all-security team meeting held the prior Friday, which included approximately 50 participants from all partner agencies. He explained that the response to any such threat would be calibrated to the information available at the time — assessing whether a threat appears credible, identifying whether it is part of a broader regional pattern, and leveraging the BCI analyst and other intelligence resources to run down leads quickly. He referenced a recent swatting incident at Dublin Methodist Hospital, which occurred on the same day as a similar incident at the Columbus Zoo, as an example of how regional pattern analysis informs the response. He noted that in the hospital incident, officers worked directly with facility security staff — who are most familiar with their own environment — to conduct a preliminary sweep while simultaneously assessing credibility.

CP Barnes inquired about the command structure and who holds ultimate authority in a critical incident involving multiple agencies. D. Chief Tabernik explained that while day-to-day operations function as a unified command with collaborative decision-making, Dublin Police Department is the overarching law enforcement authority for the event as it is a Dublin event. In a critical incident, the incident commander role falls to the Dublin Police deputy chief overseeing the event.

CP Barnes also asked for a general sense of officer deployment levels. D. Chief Tabernik indicated that on the busiest days — particularly Wednesday due to the Pro-Am, as well as Saturday and Sunday — there are approximately 50 to 60 officers working the tournament at any given time. This is in addition to maintaining full staffing for patrol, the detective bureau, the community impact unit, and other assignments throughout the rest of the city. School Resource Officers, who are not in schools during that period, are also redeployed to assist at the tournament.

D. Chief Tabernik additionally addressed the Fore!Fest street festival, which runs concurrently with the tournament on Friday and Saturday evenings in Bridge Park. On Friday, 10 officers are assigned to 4 Fest in addition to the business district unit — a total of 13 officers — partly due to the presence of a drone light show that creates significant ingress and egress demands. On Saturday, 7 officers plus the business district unit are assigned, as there is no drone show that evening. Members of the Delaware County Tactical Unit are also available during Fore!Fest as a precautionary resource.

PGA security personnel — a minimum of three individuals — liaise directly with D. Chief Tabernik or his supervisors as needed and were noted as an additional component of the overall security framework.

Daily briefings involving all safety partners and EMS are conducted each morning throughout the tournament to review incidents from the prior day and outline anticipated activities for the day ahead.

- **Reflections & Recommendations from Outgoing CAC Members**

Chief Paez introduced this agenda item by noting that four members of the committee are reaching the end of their terms at this meeting: CP Gaurav Goel, Chair (former) Dwayne Maynard, Vice Chair Apolinario, and CP Zhen Xing. Vice Chair Apolinario and CP Xing were unable to attend due to prior family commitments. Chief Paez invited CP Goel and Chair Maynard to offer reflections and recommendations.

CP Goel reflected on his four years of service on the Committee. He noted that when he joined, the country was emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic amid significant social anxiety and national conversations about policing. He expressed appreciation that the city and department chose to lean into those difficult conversations rather than avoid them, and credited the Committee as a vehicle for meaningful community engagement. He shared that he regularly brought information and perspectives from these meetings back to family, friends, and others outside Dublin, and that many were surprised and impressed by the depth of Dublin's community-police partnership. He expressed personal gratitude for the relationships built and the knowledge gained, and thanked the Chief, deputy chiefs, department staff, and fellow community partners.

CP Maynard offered extensive reflections and several recommendations. He began by acknowledging individuals who had been particularly meaningful to the Committee's work over the years, including former Tech Services Bureau Deputy Chief Jay Somerville, who he described as having initially approached the Committee with professional confidence but genuine openness, and who ultimately came to appreciate the value of community engagement. He also recognized Becky Metcalf, the Chief's executive assistant, who had supported the Committee in its early years by taking notes and facilitating access to the Chief; Linda Ritchie; HR Business Partners Whitney Aebker and Jillian Fair, who coordinated community partner participation in officer hiring interviews; former Public Information Officer Rebecca Myers; and the original ten members of the committee, including Ajmeri Hoque (now a Franklin County Municipal Court judge), Sri Gaddam, Cam Justice (now an attorney), Yangling Yin, Susan Ortega, Imran Malik, Isao Shoji, Cortney Ingram, and Stella Vallalba.

Chair Maynard recounted that the Chief's Advisory Committee was formed in 2020 in response to social unrest following the death of George Floyd, after the Chief, then-Mayor Amorose Groomes, and then-City Manager Dana McDaniel engaged directly with protesters in Dublin. He described the foundational principles of the Committee as intentionality, connectivity, and a willingness to engage in difficult but meaningful dialogue in pursuit of community trust and equitable policing.

Chair Maynard offered the following formal recommendations:

- **Ward representation:** The Committee should seek to include community partners from every ward in Dublin, as each ward presents unique concerns and perspectives that may otherwise go unheard.

- **Public Information Officer engagement:** The new PIO should be invited to attend a Committee meeting to introduce herself to members and hear their perspectives on communications and social media. Chair Maynard noted the significant impact that the previous PIO had in amplifying the Committee's work, including community outreach videos that received attention at the state level.
- **Council engagement:** As City Council membership continues to evolve, current committee members should ensure that new council members understand the importance and purpose of the Chief's Advisory Committee and actively demonstrate the value of the community-police partnership so that this work is not deemphasized.

Chair Maynard closed by reading a statement from the 2020 City Council: "Join us in fostering a future that is both exceptionally open and unapologetically diverse, where all feel welcomed and valued." He encouraged the remaining members to hold that vision as their guide and to continue engaging in difficult but consequential conversations. He also expressed confidence in the Chief's leadership and deep appreciation for both deputy chiefs.

STAFF COMMENTS

- **Update on Crime Trends and Police Activity - Police Chief Justin Paez**

Chief Paez presented a crime trends and police activity update covering the period from January 1 through the beginning of May 2026.

The department continues to see downward trends across most Part 1 crime categories, including violent crimes, overall theft offenses, theft from vehicles, and motor vehicle theft. Two categories showed a modest increase compared to the same period in 2025: breaking and entering reports rose from 6 to 8 incidents, and burglary reports rose from 7 to 9 incidents. Chief Paez acknowledged these increases while noting they represent small absolute numbers.

Regarding traffic crashes, the department recorded 232 crash reports through the first four months of 2026, compared to 223 during the same period in 2025 — an increase of 9 reports. Chief Paez identified one area of particular concern: OVI-related crash reports reached 10 by the start of May 2026, compared to only 2 at the same point in 2025. He emphasized this as a trend to monitor closely. He also noted that OVI arrests through the first four months of 2026 totaled 81, compared to 69 during the same period in 2025, which he characterized as a reflection of officers' sustained focus on impaired driving enforcement.

Chair Hollie asked whether there were identifiable problem areas contributing to the increase in crashes. Chief Paez indicated there were no new corridors of concern beyond the historically active areas — Interstate 270, US Route 33, Frantz Road, and Avery Road — where high traffic volumes predictably generate higher crash activity.

CP Barnes referenced recent media coverage of vehicle break-ins at local hotels involving a group of more than 20 individuals. Chief Paez confirmed that Dublin was referenced in those reports and that approximately 15 vehicles were affected in the incident. He noted that damage to hotel-area vehicles has historically been associated with individuals searching for firearms. In this particular case, only a pair of sunglasses was reported taken among the 15 affected vehicles. He explained that similar activity was occurring in the Columbus area on the same day, and that there may be a connection to the group referenced in the media reports, though he could not confirm that relationship with certainty. He noted that the department's experience has shown these incidents

often involve individuals operating across multiple central Ohio jurisdictions, and that collaborative investigation and information sharing among regional agencies has been effective in identifying and charging those responsible.

ROUNDTABLE

Prior to the roundtable, Chief Paez introduced Officer Patrick Wentz as the new officer representative to the committee, noting that Sergeant Kovacs had filled that role at recent prior meetings. Officer Wentz introduced himself, sharing that he has been a law enforcement officer for ten years, the last five with the City of Dublin. He noted his roles as a bike officer, fatal crash investigator, and field training officer, and expressed enthusiasm for participating in the committee as a bridge between the community and the department.

The roundtable served as an opportunity for committee members to offer well wishes and reflections to the four outgoing members.

CP Baer thanked the outgoing members for establishing the foundation of the committee, noting that meaningful positive changes had occurred even within her two years of membership. She expressed confidence that the committee would continue the work they had initiated.

CP Goyal expressed personal gratitude to both Chair Maynard and CP Goel, acknowledging that she had learned a great deal from their example in asking questions and engaging in discussion.

CP Powell acknowledged that, as a newer member, he had been a beneficiary of the groundwork laid by the departing members. He expressed admiration for the openness and receptiveness to community feedback that had been cultivated within the department.

CP Barnes expressed that he had been taken aback to learn that four members were departing simultaneously, noting the significant loss of institutional knowledge. He highlighted the historical narrative shared by Chair Maynard as particularly valuable, and asked that it be codified and preserved for future members. He also requested that the vision statement read by Chair Maynard be displayed prominently, as it offered a meaningful reminder of the committee's purpose. He committed to continuing the work and values established by the outgoing members.

CP O'Ryan expressed heartfelt thanks to the departing members for welcoming him and guiding him when he first joined the Committee, and acknowledged the value of the relationships built over three years together.

Chair Hollie offered extensive gratitude to all four outgoing members. She reflected on each individually: CP Goel for his consistent commitment and willingness; Vice Chair Apolinario for his ubiquitous community presence; CP Xing for her probing and distinctive questions; and Chair Maynard for his vision, thoroughness, and the foundational work he contributed as the committee's inaugural chair. She noted the evening's discussion as an important reminder of the committee's purpose and of the relationships — professional and personal — that had been built across the membership and with the department.

CP Maynard, in response, expressed confidence in Chair Hollie's leadership and reminded the remaining members that his door remained open. He also offered a personal anecdote about attending a Fourth of July event as a civilian and being greeted warmly by Deputy Chief Tabernik, which he described as a meaningful demonstration of the relationships that the committee had built between the community and the department.

D. Chief Lattanzi thanked all departing members on behalf of the Department, characterizing the conversations held within the committee as opportunities for the department to share its story and earn community trust. He stated that the Committee had succeeded in its central purpose of building trust and confidence in those served by the department.

D. Chief Tabernik reflected on the meaning of transparency in policing, noting that the committee's work had demonstrated what genuine transparency looks like in practice. He expressed particular gratitude for the fact that outgoing members had consistently kept officers' best interests in mind — redirecting challenging conversations toward questions of officer safety and wellness — and described that as something he would carry with him and share with the officers he works alongside.

Chief Paez offered closing remarks, reflecting on the origins of the committee and expressing continued eagerness to engage in community partnership. He noted that as many community members as the department serves each year, there remain more connections to be made and more trust to be built. He individually acknowledged each departing member: CP Goel for his consistent connectivity and bridge-building across communities; Vice Chair Apolinario for his deep community involvement and presence; CP Xing for her inquisitive and outward-looking perspective; and Chair Maynard for his longstanding relationship with the department that predated the committee, and for his essential role in helping establish its foundation and character. Chief Paez noted that he had been in contact with multiple original committee members within the prior week, underscoring that the relationships formed through this work extend well beyond the formal term of service.

Chief Paez presented certificates of appreciation and challenge coins to CP Goel and Chair Maynard on behalf of the department. He confirmed that certificates and coins for Vice Chair Apolinario and CP Xing would be presented at the next meeting.

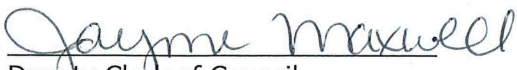
Mr. Jiang of the Office of the City Manager reminded all members of the Boards and Commissions Member Recognition Ceremony, scheduled for Monday, June 8, 2026, at 5:30 PM in the lobby of 5555 Perimeter Drive.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.



Chair, Chief's Advisory Committee



Deputy Clerk of Council

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