



**Community Task Force
Youth Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 15, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.**

1. Roll Call

Present: Jamil Robinson, Samhi Boppana
Staff: Kirby Dearth, Chief Justin Paez, Deidra Wolf

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting, were approved by Jamil Robinson and seconded by Samhi Boppana.

3. Guest Speaker: Chief Justin Paez

Kirby Dearth welcomed Police Chief, Justin Paez. Chief Paez talked about his background and how he came to his position at the City of Dublin in 2003. He became the Chief of Police in June, 2019.

Chief Paez gave an overview of how the department is made up of 121 employees with 72 of those being sworn police officers. He explained how their division is divided into three major sections which are: 1) Technical Services Bureau which includes a consolidated dispatch center (Northwest Regional Communications Center) which handles calls from Dublin, Hilliard, Worthington and Upper Arlington, a records section, a property section and an accreditation office which handles policies, procedures and best practices; 2) Operations Section is the patrol section made up of 3 different shifts providing 24/7 policing; 3) Support Services made up of a detective bureau, community impact unit which handles traffic enforcement, an investigation unit which handles vice activities and School Resource Officers.

Jamil Robinson asked how the Chief's Advisory Committee relates to the Community Task Force. The Chief's Advisory Committee (CAC) was enacted along with the Community Task Force and they meet on a monthly basis. Chief Paez said that the largest topic is School Resource Officers (SRO). He said that this topic gained a lot of momentum last summer when protests began and also following up on what changes students wanted to see. The CAC was sent the SRO manual and contract as well as the SRO policies. SROs attended the first few meetings of the CAC to answer questions.

The CAC specifically asked the police department to bring back the following polices that they are engaged in:

- Response to Resistance
- Use of Force
- Rendering Aid After Response to Resistance
- Officers Involved in Critical Incidents
- Body Cameras
- Response to Civil Disturbances (Crowd Control)

Chief Paez said that the Chief's Advisory Committee will be ongoing. Jamil asked if SROs were required to wear body cams at all times and Chief Paez stated that they are only required when there is an investigation of if they are handling an incident. Kirby asked about other patrol officers wearing body cam and Chief Paez said that there are automatic triggers that automatically turn on the body cam. Anytime there is an investigation, traffic stop, response to an incident or taking a report, officers are



required to turn on their body cam. The cameras are running all of the time but officers have to turn it on to actually mark an event. On emergency runs when lights and sirens are on, the body cam automatically turns on. Chief Paez spoke about addressing situations where body cam may not have been turned on in an appropriate incident and stated that the incidents are reviewed and correction action is issued. Deidra asked about repeat incidents where body cam was not appropriately used and Chief Paez said that much like the first time, the incident would be carefully reviewed and corrective action would be issued appropriately.

Jamil asked Chief Paez to explain what occurs during police training and Chief Paez outlined the following:

- Basic training and receive Certificate of Peace Officer
- Referred to Columbus Police Academy for additional 7 months of training
- Dublin extensive field training for 4 months
- Classroom training for 2 weeks
- Phase 1-3 Training - riding in patrol car in uniform with training officer (3 different rotations, each time with a different training officer followed by a training day where exposed to different training scenarios)
- Phase 4 Training is an officer riding solo, in uniform
- Multiple approval levels at the end of training to assess the officer's readiness
- Training lasts for at least 12 months before officer is patrolling on their own
- Bi-Annual training required for all officers

Chief Paez stated that all incidents are thoroughly investigated at many different levels and at the end of the year an analysis is done and that information is applied to upcoming training. The department constantly reviews training, policies and best practices.

Sahmi raised a question about expanding conversations with the Division of Police and elementary students. The Chief stated that they do spend time in elementary schools as much as possible. They've partnered with the Starfish Assignment which is a reading program where officers read to students in the classroom.

Kirby asked how diversity and implicit bias is taught in the classrooms. Chief Paez said that he reached out to a consultant who was a former police officer and served in the military. The consultant studied, in depth, about implicit bias and Chief Paez did training with the consultant and learned how to begin to lean in and build a foundation around these topics. The Division also works with the Kerwin Institute at the Ohio State University.

4. **Strategic Plan Priorities Review**

Kirby reviewed the following:

- Youth Engagement and having the city understand the needs and concerns
- Expanding and formalizing the Youth Subcommittee
- Working with school systems, recreation, arts, athletics and Syntero to build city-wide, attractive training opportunities to meet specific demographics
- Treating youth as a relevant stakeholder

5. **Adjourn – 6:57 p.m.**

Next Meeting:
Monday, March 22, 2021
6:00 p.m. (Virtual Platform)