



MEETING MINUTES

Chief's Advisory Committee (In Person)

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Welcome to Committee by Chief Páez

Chief Páez welcomed the committee to the meeting. Thanked all for their flexibility and adaptability with getting together to meet.

Committee members present: W. Dwayne Maynard, Ajmeri Hoque, Susan Ortega, Gaurav Goel, Emmet Apolinario, Zhen Xing, Isao Shoji, Yanling Yin, Chief Justin Páez, Deputy Chief Greg Lattanzi, Deputy Chief Nick Tabernik (via WebEx), Corporal Devin Howard, Officer Amber McCloskey, PIO Rebecca Myers; Guests: Kirby Dearth, Officer Scott Brown, Communications Supervisor Stephanie Skipworth, Investigator Dave Jaeger, Sergeant Thomas Gallagher, Peggy Kilty

Minutes by: Rebecca Metcalf

Committee Business

Chair W. Dwayne Maynard and Vice Chair Ajmeri Hoque

Dwayne Maynard welcomed all to the meeting and reviewed events that have occurred since the last meeting. For two months now, Ukraine has been at war. Yet another black male lost his life when a traffic stop escalated instead of de-escalating. Young law enforcement officers, just doing their jobs lost their lives. These occurrences are still ongoing and are the issues for which the CAC was developed.

He then deferred to Chief Páez to call roll.

- **Attendance**

Chief Páez called roll for the meeting:

Judge Dwayne Maynard - present

Ms. Ajmeri Hoque – present

Ms. Susan Ortega – present

Ms. Zhen Xing - present

Mr. Gaurav Goel – present

Mr. Emmet Apolinario - present

Ms. Yanling Yin – present

Mr. Isao Shoji – present

Ms. Rama Billakenty – not present

Ms. Stella Villalba – not present

Review/Amend/Accept Last Meeting's Minutes

Dwayne Maynard asked if minutes from the March 24, 2022 meeting were available. The minutes were not yet available for review by the committee and were tabled for review and acceptance at next month's meeting.

Chief Páez advised that the CIAC as well as the CAC are all public meetings. Committee members are all welcome to attend any of those meetings. Partnerships have been developed outside of these meetings as well. Kirby Dearth suggested public events attendance as well as those are all platforms to have those important two-way conversations. Dwayne Maynard also expressed interest for members of the CAC to attend any of the trainings that the CIAC will go through.

Old Business

Dwayne Maynard asked if there was any old business that needed to be addressed. Neither the committee nor Rebecca Myers had any old business.

Chief's Update to Committee

Chief Páez worked with Rebecca on messaging for Ramadan. They were able to get information out on social media and even though it was short notice, around 300 people showed up for the event. He received comments from several residents who had lived in the community for decades that found great comfort in seeing the communities come together.

Chief Páez gave a presentation at OU this past Saturday to newly elected officials from the Central Ohio area, Westerville, Worthington, Hilliard, and many more. The last day was a module set aside for diversity, equity, and inclusion. They asked the City of Dublin to share the projects they have been working on. This is a great representation of sharing the work of the committee and City of Dublin, that will spark the initiative for them to start similar projects in their communities. Rebecca Myers will share photos with the committee from the recent community events.

Applications for the Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) are open through May 16, 2022. If any members have interest, feel free to join and please share with your communities. The information is on the website and you can apply there as well. Rebecca Myers will also send the link to all.

Dwayne Maynard asked if there were any questions from committee members. Susan Ortega asked what the age limit is to participate in the CPA. Chief Páez advised that it is 18 years of age and over. She also asked if there is a different version available for younger individuals. Chief Páez advised that the department is working on a youth police academy, with hopes of having it available this summer. Yanling Yin shared information about a meeting she had with Corporal Keiffer on how to attract, develop, and keep

female officers. She advised that there are additional upcoming opportunities to get together and if anyone else has any ideas or input to please let her know.

New business

Chief Páez shared that the committee is fortunate to have eight members that have had the immigration experience. He has thought about how we have a venue to present town hall discussions. He brought members of the department to share some information on presentations the department could offer but wanted the committee to have a comfort level with the information and see what that might look like.

Chief Páez introduced Communications Supervisor Stephanie Skipworth to share information about the programs they routinely deliver to the community. CS Skipworth advised that as part of their program they present real life 911 calls and explain the entire process. They share resources available to the community like Language Line, Text to 911, Smart 911, and other resources our 911 center has available. She advised that a large portion of the class explains what to expect during an emergency but they also provide tourniquet training, and all participants go home with a tourniquet.

Next, DC Greg Lattanzi spoke about the Suicide Prevention Town Hall the department hosted in 2020. The purpose was to outline for the public, what happens when they call the police about someone in crisis, learn what to expect from the police, what the police will do to get them the resources they need, and get them to a facility that can best treat their condition. Crisis intervention training is one piece that our officers receive. The training focuses on mental health and different mental health conditions, officers role play, and get feedback from professionals. Lastly he shared resources that are available on our web page for options in Central Ohio. Dwayne Maynard asked how easy it is to locate this information on the website as that is a lot of important information and he wants to make sure that someone does not have to search too far to find the information. DC Lattanzi advised that if you search for "suicide town hall" the resource page is one click away. Additionally, Rebecca Myers will review the website and make sure that information is easily accessible.

Chief Páez spoke about one other piece that concerns contact during a traffic stop and deferred to Officer Scott Brown to share his presentation. Officer Brown advised that he started in the Community Impact Unit six years ago. He was a traffic officer at the time and noticed how differently people from different areas of the world handle traffic stops. They created a quick training that was presented to several groups starting with traffic stops, and covering how we handle traffic stops in the US. One of the reasons they put this information together is so that people don't feel nervous when they are stopped by a police officer, if you know what to do, you will be less nervous. Another issue they found was that a lot of people are victimized but they don't know how to report it. They presented basic ways for them to report a crime. Another piece he shared was that

sometimes an officer may just come up and talk to you, it doesn't mean you are in trouble; it is normal that an officer may approach and just want to talk to you.

Chief Páez reiterated that these are the three pieces the department would like to include as part of a town hall event, then also provide some space for people to have smaller group discussions after the presentations. He wanted the committee to have an idea of what those pieces would look like before offering them to the community. Yanling Yin commented that these are all important pieces to provide to the community and suggested they would also be beneficial as part of the driver's license application process. Chief Páez would like to hear feedback after the town hall presentations of highlights and takeaways that resonated with people; he would love for this group and Dublin to drive use of our resources outside of our department and becoming more intentional as a government. Ajmeri Hoque asked Officer Brown how often he provided his presentations. Officer Brown advised that they were doing them every three or four months prior to COVID. Ajmeri Hoque shared that culturally, in the immigrant community, they do not want to be seen with an authoritative figure, that is something to consider as people may see them and think they are in trouble.

Gaurav Goel commented that when he moved to Dublin he received a new resident packet, this is a good opportunity to share that information as well. Additionally, the schools provide a good opportunity. When kids receive that information they can bring it home to their families. Dwayne Maynard also suggested sharing that information with driver's education businesses. Ajmeri Hoque suggested that a video may be better received as well.

Peggy Kilty, Dublin resident and was a committee member of the Community Task Force, commented that she has a 15-year-old learning to drive and that information would be beneficial. She also asked if there is a video available now and if there is technology available to add in subtitles or different languages. Rebecca Myers advised that they did recently take some new video and there are some plug-ins to use for different languages. Kirby Dearth advised that there is auto-translation for non-live videos that are offered for free; however, it does not support live closed captioning. Rebecca Myers advised that we can also be more intentional by having links on the website to get to the various languages.

Zhen Xing commented that the department has good information but it seems the problem is how to deliver it, social media is a good place, events are a good place, and maybe providing information in quarterly snip-its.

Dwayne Maynard spoke about the young man killed recently by police, he is curious what message we should deliver about proper protocol during a traffic stop. How could that situation have been deescalated? Officer Brown advised that the Dublin Police Department's message for a traffic stop is as follows: find a safe place to pull over, stay

in your car, don't do a lot of moving around while in the vehicle, and wait until the officer comes up. Let the officer know where you keep the items (license, insurance, registration), two-way communication so you both know what is going on. Hand everything to the officer. The officer will tell you what is happening. The officer issues a ticket or comes back with a warning and will send you on your way but the biggest thing is communication. There will be no surprises, they will tell you exactly what they need. He thinks that is where a lot of things could go differently. Ajmeri Hoque commented that she was told by a trooper to have license and registration ready. She feels that the process needs to be universal. DC Lattanzi added that it is a complex question, it depends on where you are stopped, the time of day, the jurisdiction that stops you. There may be mitigating situations or circumstances. He suggests making sure your insurance card and registration are packaged up together and easy to access and added that there is no such thing as a normal traffic stop. Ajmeri Hoque suggests trying to get some universal rules to follow.

Chief Páez added that one universal rule is; listen to what the officer is giving as direction. Context is always key and figuring out how to communicate that as a universal key is difficult, but following the officer's direction is the best advice you can give. This is a reason to have that conversation with the Department of Public Safety.

Cpl. Howard added that while departments do train, and we do train in similar ways, when he approaches a car he looks for a stimulus change. Is that person digging around in the car, is there a lot of movement? If they get out of the car, he is looking at the hands, that is very critical to us, if for some reason you are out of the car keep the hands visible. Ajmeri Hoque asked how do you differentiate what is in their hands. Officer McCloskey advised that it is very difficult and you have a split second to determine what is in their hand. Chief Páez suggests that the department will go back and put together an example of a traffic stop from all the various perspectives, from the different points of view; that may be beneficial for someone to see what that actually looks like.

Peggy Kilty asked about the upcoming change regarding carrying a gun and if it is correct that people can have weapons and do not have to disclose they have a gun in their car. How does that change how you approach? Chief Páez advised that they do not have to disclose that they have a firearm until they are asked. Cpl. Howard commented that is a subject we have to address but you can't really know a person's intention until they are actually using that firearm. Officer McCloskey added that it is stressful knowing that change is coming, but the folks that tell you they have a gun are not the folks that are going to shoot you.

Chief Páez asked the group that if these topics seem like we are on the right track, the department will continue to work in that direction. Yanling Yin referred to a 2019 community event the department had with the Chinese community, suggesting that we

can show we have done this before and include that information as part of the presentation.

Isao Shoji suggested, on the topic of the traffic stop, when making the presentation to keep the information limited.

Lastly, Sgt. Tom Gallagher introduced himself and spoke about issues they work on in the Community Impact Unit. He and Investigator Dave Jaeger presented information they would share regarding human trafficking. Ajmeri Hoque feels like this topic is a possible town hall in and of itself. Chief Páez advised that what we are looking to do is help people who are in a vulnerable state; it is an uncomfortable conversation, and breaking those stigmas about not being able to talk about it out loud. He would love to have a full conversation on the topic but he wants to make sure that this is something that the community wants to discuss. Ajmeri Hoque believes that what it goes back to is that people don't know what their rights are.

Peggy Kilty commented that when we see big events that come into town, there is talk of human trafficking increase, is that a problem with events that occur in Dublin. Sgt. Gallagher advised that they share information especially with hotels to assist and know what to look out for when there are large events that come to Dublin.

Isao Shoji commented that there is such a large portion of the population that doesn't know that this occurs. This is an opportunity to raise awareness. Sgt. Gallagher commented that as cliché as it may sound, "if you see something say something".

Dwayne Maynard advised that given there is such interest in this topic, he invited the unit to come and talk about this again. Chief Páez advised that we are always willing to come back and revisit any conversation. The goal is always protecting and saving lives.

Dwayne Maynard thanked all for their presentations and asked the committee if there were any current events to discuss. Ajmeri Hoque advised that Monday marks the end of Ramadan, and that May is Asian American Heritage month and there are several events going on.

Yanling Yin advised that May is also Mental Health Awareness month. Rebecca Myers stated that the Link Bride will be lit on May 1 for Mental Health Awareness month.

Dwayne Maynard asked if there was anything else to add for the good of the order. There were no comments. He asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ajmeri Hoque motioned to adjourn and Emmet Apolinario seconded the motion. Dwayne Maynard asked that all in favor of adjourning the meeting signify by stating "I". All were in favor and the meeting was officially adjourned at 7:55 PM.

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