

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

URBANA CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

DATE: April 8, 2009

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Urbana City Council Chambers
Urbana City Building
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Costello, James McNeely, Scott Dossett, Grace Mitchell,
Diane Gottheil

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ivy Williams

OTHERS PRESENT: Ricky Baldwin, CU Citizens for Peace & Justice
Danielle Chynoweth, CU Citizens for Peace & Justice
Brian Dollnar, CU Citizens for Peace & Justice
Rev. Troy Burks, The Ministerial Alliance of CU & Vicinity

STAFF PRESENT: Lt. Anthony Cobb, Urbana Police Department, Todd Rent, Human
Relations Officer, Jolinda Ross, Administrative Assistant to
Human Relations Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chair, Tom Costello. Roll call was taken, with a quorum present.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Grace Mitchell asked to add "Discussion" to the agenda.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Input regarding the Civilian Police Review and Reauthorization Process of the Ordinance Establishing a Civilian Police Review Board

Chair Costello reported that comments received from the public will be entered into the minutes.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Brian Dollnar, 303 W. Locust, Urbana, addressed the Board regarding community outreach of the board.

Ricky Baldwin, 801 E. California, Urbana, reported that he did provide written comments but again addressed the Board regarding the prohibition of ex-felons being allowed to sit on the Board. He also indicated that Board should have the ability to hire an investigator.

In addition, he suggested providing information about the Board in various public places.

Grace Mitchell and Diane Gottheil both addressed the concern regarding training for the Board and reported on what training the Board has had.

Danielle Chynoweth, 412 W. Illinois, Urbana, addressed the Board regarding community outreach, quarterly reporting of the Board's activities, and the issue of people with felony convictions not being allowed to sit on the Board.

Troy Burks, 809 E. Park, reported that written comments were provided by the Ministerial Alliance of C U & Vicinity. He also stressed the importance of community outreach.

5. Discussion

Chair Costello asked Mr. Rent about what reports have been provided to the Council. Mr. Rent indicated that July and October of 2008 have not been given.

Mr. Rent reported that an annual report will be done subsequent to April 21, 2009.

Chair Costello stated that it is reasonable to give quarterly reports and the Board will make sure that the public is aware of them.

James McNeely concurred with the concern about community outreach. He indicated that he would like to see better access for the Board members to be made aware of complaints that have been filed.

Mr. Rent reported that the brochures have been printed and they will be distributed at the April 29, 2009 meeting.

Chair Costello asked to have a list compiled of where the brochures will be placed.

Scott Dossett indicated that the Board should look at community outreach and allowing felons to sit on the Board.

Mr. Rent reported that any items that the Board has concerns about should be presented to the Council at Monday's meeting.

Scott Dossett made a motion that Section 19-28k should be amended by adding:

COMPLAINANTS SHALL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION THAT THEIR COMPLAINT HAS BEEN RECEIVED WITHIN 14 DAYS. EVERY EFFORT SHALL BE MADE TO RESOLVE THE COMPLAINT WITHIN 30 DAYS. IN THE EVENT THAT IT IS NOT RESOLVED IN 30 DAYS, A STATUS REPORT SHALL BE MAILED TO THE COMPLAINANT EVERY 30 DAYS UNTIL IT IS RESOLVED. The department shall conclude its investigation prior to consideration by the CPRB.

Motion seconded by Diane Gottheil. All voted aye. The motion passed and the recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council.

Scott Dossett made a motion to advise the City Council that based on public input the section banning ex-felons should be reconsidered. Motion seconded by James McNeely.

Discussion followed.

Chair Costello disagrees with a motion being made on this matter at this time and that the Board should take more time to look into the matter. Vice Chair Mitchell concurred.

A voice vote was taken as follows:

Costello	No	Dossett	Yes
Mitchell	No	Gottheil	Yes
		McNeely	Yes

Scott Dossett asked that the issue of outreach be placed on the next meeting agenda.

There was a discussion of reviewing what the Board has already done, developing a schedule for meeting with groups in the community, having a calendar of when reports are due and about having a summary of the complaints being given to the Board in an electronic form.

Scott Dossett volunteered to present the Boards recommendations to the City Council on Monday night.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Diane Gottheil to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Scott Dossett. All voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The next meeting will be scheduled for April 29, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Submitted,

Jolinda Ross
Recording Secretary