

Public Safety Advisory Commission – Columbus, GA
Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/18/2021
Location: Milton Lockett Community Room – Public Safety Bldg
Start time: 4:00 PM
Adjournment time: 5:00 PM
Next meeting: December 16, 2021
Meeting Recorder: Annalisa Shelling

Members Present:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> David Rohwedder, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donald Watkins |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pete Temesgen, Vice-Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stan Swiney |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Byron Hickey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Branchcomb |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Belvin Millner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexander King |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Taft | |

Others Present/Visitors:

N/A

Minutes

The November 2021 Meeting started at 4:00 PM. Mr. Pete Temesgen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

CPD Vacancies - The topic of the shortage of police officers was discussed. Mr. Watkins stated that officers are leaving the Columbus Police Department to take lower paying jobs, and that some officers do not trust their supervisors. It was stated that some officers are not honest on their Exit Interviews, because they do not want to burn bridges. Patrol has changed their shifts to 10-hour shifts.

SWOT Analysis – The Columbus Police Department conducted a SWOT Analysis and the results were shared with the PSAC. One of the main “threats” mentioned was the District Attorney. This is no longer identified as a threat since the previous DA has been removed from office.

The PSAC would like to approach the Columbus Police Department in reference to conducting a completely anonymous survey / analysis. They committee would like to see a further analysis on morale at CPD.

Use of Force Report – Chief Blackmon has been sharing completed Use of Force Incident Reports with the PSAC.

Mr. Watkins asked about the UOF Report from August 3, 2021. Annalisa Shelling will check with Chief Blackmon on this incident report. The UOF Report on the 12/26/2020 Taser Incident will be given to David Rohwedder at the December 16, 2021 Meeting.

Vacancy on PSAC - The committee mentioned removing Friar Noel Danielewicz from the PSAC due to not attending the meetings. Records indicate that David Rohwedder emailed Ms. Sandra Davis (Clerk of Council) on April 23, 2021 at 4:54 PM requesting that his seat be declared vacant, and that the vacancy be filled.

Ms. Davis then emailed Friar Noel Danielwicz on June 14, 2021 at 12:54 PM. She thanked him for his service on the PSAC and informed him that his seat was slated vacant.

CPD Pay Raise / Compression: Byron Hickey mentioned the upcoming Pay Study to hopefully fix pay compression in the department.

Crime: Byron also mentioned that crime is affecting all areas of Columbus. It is not limited to one area of the city.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Next Meeting will be held December 16, 2021 at 4:00 PM.
