

# Minutes of Hyattsville Police and Public Safety Citizens' Advisory Committee meeting on November 18th, 2021

[In attendance on the Zoom meeting](#)

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[Approval of minutes](#)

[Introduction of new Chief Jarod Towers](#)

[Issue of trash overflow](#)

[Virtual technology for officer training](#)

[Police appreciation event report](#)

[Hosting a public safety night / outreach](#)

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Chairperson Patricia Page called the meeting to begin at 19:16

## In attendance on the Zoom meeting

- Committee
  - Chairperson Patricia Page, Ward 5
  - Secretary Joel Chan, Ward 1
  - Committee Member Bette Dickerson, Ward 2
  - Committee Member Emily Strab, Ward 2
  - Committee Member Taylor Wilder, Ward 2
  - Committee Member Mai Abdul Rahman, ward 1
  - ~~○ Committee Member Mariel Alper, Ward 1,~~
  - Committee Member Sandra Elvin, Ward 3
  - ~~○ Committee Member Jerome Brown, Ward 1~~
- Council / Liasion
  - Chief of Police, Jarod Towers
  - Council Member Robert Croslin, Ward 2
  - Council Member Danny Schaible, Ward 2
  - Council Member Rommel Sandino, Ward 5

## Agenda and Notes

### *Approval of agenda*

- Secretary Joel Chan motioned to accept
  - Bette seconded
  - Passed with zero objections

### *Approval of minutes*

- Taylor motioned to accept
  - Emily seconded
  - Passed with zero objections

### *Joint Collaboration PPSAC and Education Advisory Committee*

- Socks and Undergarments Drive
- Info
  - Nov 30, 2021 - #GIVINGTUESDAY
  - This is not mandatory
  - Flyer is ready and need to be printed (city contact)
- Mai motioned that PPSAC formally participate as joint collaborators with the Education Advisory Committee on the Socks and Undergarments Drive
  - Taylor seconded
  - Passed with zero objections

### *Hyattsville Police Updates*

- Some new hires
  - New lateral officer, starts 12/6
  - Administrative staff, one starting Monday, one starting somewhere around new year
- Lots of admin work for command staff; now top priority to put admin support in place by the new year to enable command to focus on supervising and mentoring supervisors and officers; they need to be out in the field more than in the office to do this work
- Dept hasn't had a promotional process; many current supervisory positions are in acting positions; now working to get study and reading material out for 1st week of dec to get promotional exam in early march, to fill most supervisor positions
- Scott Dunklee has left, as of Nov 5
- Qs from Mai re: Racial bias
  - Protocols for capturing incident data?
    - Partnered with CJI to develop consent decree audits while at Cheverly; found 66% AA, but 70% traffic stops (majority were on Landover Rd, Columbia Park Rd, and near Kenilworth Ave; majority was nonresidential traffic; next was to eval race of drivers on most busy hours of day).

Important for building trust and legitimacy asked if CJI would do a similar audit of race-based data at Hyattsville

- CALEA accreditation review today; approved for the 8th time
- Actively discussed in dept now
- Traffic-based tracking system is the same across MD: Delta Plus (since ~2006 or so)
- Q from Mai: how to measure specifically?
  - Chief: find that it's more about culture; awareness of bias
  - Race-based data on stops and arrests to go hand in hand with training
  - Might also do external reviews, like with what was done with CJI at Cheverly; focusing on culture and building trust now
- Q from Patricia: Are there suggestion boxes for the officers that are more discreet (not on the same floor as supervisors)?
- Q from Bette: is there someone assigned to monitor
  - Will review data annually at minimum, to get a baseline, see if any officers are off from the baseline
    - Patricia: suggest that monitoring be done quarterly if possible, and report back to committee, unless you have evaluator on board to disseminate info quickly
      - Chief: will consider seriously, insufficient administrative support capacity at the moment
- Comment from Mai: appreciate the clarification that there are means for the dept to collect this information
  - How do police officers report/track/monitor possible abuses
- Tabled remaining questions from Mai and Bette for Chief to the next meeting

### ***Police Camera on 42nd Ave & Oglethorpe Street/Home Depot @3301 East West Hwy***

- Has there been any improvements of crime in this area since the implementations?
- What type of crimes are being committed in those areas?
- Are there anymore cameras in Hyattsville that we are NOT aware of?
- Chief: will look into it
- Taylor motioned to table questions for next meeting

### ***Other items***

- Bette motioned to skip Dec meeting
  - Emily seconded
  - Passed with zero objections

## Closing

- Mai motioned to adjourn at 20:20
- Bette seconded
- Passed with zero objections