



City of Hyattsville
Police and Public Safety Citizens (PPSC) Advisory
Committee Meeting - Virtual
Minutes, Meeting of November 19, 2025, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

I. Attendance

Position, Name	Ward	Present / Absent	Position, Name	Present / Absent
Chair, Taurean Barnwell	3	✓	Chief of Police, Jarod Towers	X
Secretary / Recorder, Ana Chapa	1	✓	Deputy Chief of Police, Laura Lanham	✓
Member, Jerome Brown	5	X	Council Member Ward 2, Emily Strab (no longer on committee)	X
Member, Michelle Brown	3	✓	Council Member Ward 5, Kelson Nisbett	✓
Member, Julia Dezelski	1	X		
Member, Bob Kantor	2	X		
Member, Evan Myers	2	✓		
Member, Patricia Page	5	✓		
Member, Taylor Wilder	2	✓		

Public Attendance: No public attendees.

II. Agenda and Minutes

- A. Roll Call: 6 members in attendance- quorum was reached.
- B. Approval of Agenda: Chapa motioned to approve the agenda. Unanimous approval of agenda.
- C. Approval of October Minutes: Wilder motioned to approve. Minutes unanimously approved.

III. Public Comment

- A. 2 public attendees- both requested to speak and were permitted
- B. Sean Shannon: Spoke about ICE incidents, especially the September issue on Queens Chapel, the increase in activity, and real fear in our community. Has 4 requests of the HPD:
 - 1. Help to identify federal agents



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2. Officially document and prosecute illegal practices of enforcement officers
 3. Commit to using marked police vehicles
 4. Help identify detained and connect with families to help them connect with detained and help retrieve belongings
- C. Michael Bonds: stop sign camera discussion
1. Understands they will not be used for rolling stops but only blatant disregard of signs. Thinks this is a mistake- should enforce for all stops to enforce traffic control.
 2. Discussed in greater detail during the later part of the meeting.
- D. Kelson Nisbett and Deputy Police Chief Lanham responding to ICE Comment:
1. Mayor has released a letter outlining the federal vs city response (letter on the City website:
https://www.hyattsville.org/DocumentCenter/View/9311/Letter-from-Mayor-Croslin_10125?bidId=)
 2. Also encouraged people to attend bystander trainings
 - a) Important to document from a safe distance
 - b) Do not berate the officers- it is not helpful
 - c) Community response and witness has been helpful.
 - d) In some incidents officers have the appropriate paperwork but not always so important for ALL community members to know the rights of community members.
 3. ICE is not communicating with Hyattsville PD
 4. At next meeting discuss how the committee can help get more information out to the community

IV. General Discussion Topics

a. Implementation of Stop Sign Cameras

- i. Opened floor to discussion based on information that has already been provided and has been reported in the local news.
- ii. Barnwell agreed that it should be used to fine for anyone who does not make a complete stop.
- iii. Will not happen until January at the earliest (likely late winter or early spring). They have secured a vendor and are working through the process of implementation.
- iv. It was discussed at a Town Hall Meeting.
- v. This should not be about revenue generation but about public safety. Similar to speeding- traffic cameras do not fine at 1 mile over the limit but 11 miles over the limit; at the point where it is unsafe. It is also a matter of volume as EVERY citation must be reviewed before a fine goes out. Speed cameras tend to be on



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thorough fares and so it impacts people beyond the community. Stop Sign cameras almost always impact residents.

- vi. 4-6 cameras will be placed throughout the city and will likely be rotated around.
- vii. Question: Whether the cameras will use AI or CCTV? Nearly all new technology uses AI now and that will be the case with the cameras.
- viii. Question: What the reason/ motivation is- DC Lanham responded that it is safety.
- ix. Question: Can flashing stop signs be placed in high crossing intersections? The city cannot manage that it is the state Department of Public Works.

b. Committee workflow and Future Discussion Topics

- i. Barnwell's first meeting as chair. Is a federal gov. employee. Has lived in the neighborhood for three years.
- ii. In the next meeting let's discuss how our committee can better support the community. Hope is to implement online workflow tools. Must be in compliance with City regs.
- iii. Also wants to confirm that the date and time of meetings work for people. Should we remain virtual or are there opportunities for occasional in person.

V. HVL Police Dept Updates (from DC Lanham)

- a. Follow HPD on social media. Seeking sponsorship for Shop with a Cop to sponsor kids for Christmas. Event is Dec. 13th so need support prior to that.
- b. Finished the accreditation process- at Hearing they were awarded accreditation status for next four years. Received fantastic results.
- c. Now authorized for 55 police officers.

VI. Next Meeting: December 10th, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

- a. Taurean Barnwell motioned to adjourn. Michelle seconded.