

POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS & REVIEW COMMISSION COMMUNITY MEETING

ITEM 1.

Call to order.

The Oxford Police Community Relations & Review Commission meeting of February 15, 2018 was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Pat Meade. Members present were: Amber Franklin, Shana Rosenberg, and Aimin Wang.

Doug Elliott, City Manager; John Jones, Police Chief; John Buchholz, Assistant to the Chief – Community Outreach; Lara Fening, Lieutenant; Geoff Robinson, Lieutenant; and Amy Gabbard, Office Manager, were in attendance for the City.

ITEM 2.

Approval of Agenda.

Aimin Wang moved to approve the agenda; Shana Rosenberg seconded. The motion passed 4-0-0.

ITEM 3.

Approval of Minutes of the August 17, 2017 Meeting.

Aimin Wang moved to approve the minutes; Amber Franklin seconded. The motion passed 4-0-0.

ITEM 4.

Discussion.

A. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Linda Kimball, audience member, inquired about how the commission members felt about meeting their objectives last year, to which Amber Franklin replied that one of the commission's goals was to be more active in the African American community. She said that although she wanted to, she wasn't able to attend the NAACP meeting at the end of 2017. She hopes to continue to reach out to other members of the community and to the younger generation to see what their perceptions are of policing in Oxford. Furthermore, she said she hopes that Chief Jones recognizes that in any kind of relationship, which is what we are in, there is a legacy, a history to overcome, even though it is not specific to his leadership. She stated she wants to be the bridge between the OPD and the community to help OPD understand the heritage of the challenges that

might exist within the relationships between the OPD and the African American community, and recognized that it's a longitudinal process that will take time. She suggested Oxford Coffee Co. as a place to hold a community gathering. She summarized by saying that while not necessarily reportable, she has been in communication.

Linda Kimball asked about stop data, to which Pat Meade remembered that an OPD intern was going to work on stop data and told Ms. Kimball that he will bring up the topic of stop data later in the meeting, as he was going to ask about it when other data was discussed.

B. CITATIONS BY RACE AND GENDER REPORT 2017

Amber Franklin asked Chief Jones to clarify the difference between arrests and charges, to which he explained that one person (arrest) can be charged with multiple offenses (citations). He added that citations also include traffic citations. He confirmed that the second table shown in the report is a subset of the first table.

Amber Franklin also wanted to know about the category of race entitled "Unknown", and specifically, how or why "unknown" was not part of arrests. Chief Jones explained that it could be that the officer didn't ask the person or that the officer didn't know the race of the person. He said the number of "unknowns" stood out to him as well. He thought that another explanation could be that in 2016 the statistics came from two separate software systems and in 2017 they came from the current system, which involves validation through NIBRS. When the Records Specialist is validating the record, if he doesn't know the race, he puts "unknown". Or it could be that when the information was pulled from CAD, if the dispatcher didn't know the race, the information was left blank. Ms. Franklin also wanted clarification between "Other" and "Unknown", to which Chief Jones explained that "other" is for races that don't fit in the listed categories.

The bottom line is that the chief ran the numbers, noticed the increase in "unknown", and needed more time to figure out the reason for the increase, which suggests it may be best to have the data meeting later in the year. Chief Jones said he could provide a more detailed report and include additional information if the data was shared at the second meeting of the year.

Aimin Wang – Asked if the type of arrest or type of citation could be provided. Chief Jones explained that more information could be provided for the category of arrest or

citation but members were simply provided with the type of data that had presented in the past. Mr. Wang stated, for example, how many are traffic citations and how many are other violations. Chief Jones explained that if we understand what type of data the Commission would like to see, we will put it together.

Pat Meade reported that he looks at 3 year trends and noted a slight uptick in arrests and citations for Asians and African Americans. Chief Jones responded by giving possible reasons for the increase in the number of citations issued and arrests made, which included hiring new and/or younger officers and having a new command staff.

Next Pat Meade reiterated the commission's desire for stop data and wanted to know if progress had been made on the department's ability to collect the data. Chief Jones said he understood the need of the commission to have this data. He referred to the Ohio Collaborative and the standards that are required to be met. He said 2017's standards focused on Use of Force and Recruitment, this year they focus on Community Engagement and Body Worn Cameras, and next year they will focus on Bias free policing. Police Departments the size of OPD will be required to collect stop data and conduct a documented administrative review of the data by 2020. He explained that BCSO is transitioning to a new, updated CAD, which should include the ability to spit out the data.

Pat Meade noted there was only one formal complaint on an officer last year and Chief Jones added that no informal complaints came to him.

C. BODY WORN CAMERAS (BWC) POLICY

JJ gave a basic demonstration/explanation of how the body worn camera (BWC) works. He said uniformed patrol officers are required to wear them and that it costs about \$36,000 for a 3-year contract, mainly for storage. Overall, while it adds a considerable amount of administrative work to the officers' work day, it's a good tool. Officers are currently in the training phase, getting used to a new routine.

The BWC policy incorporated and took language from samples policies published by organizations such as the ACLU, IACP, and the Ohio Collaborative. The Records Specialist still needs to receive training on the redaction software. Amber Franklin commented on the policy, stating it was thorough and she specifically noted section B2, the section that helps protect the privacy of a private residence. Pat Meade said the policy should address Glen Ellerbe's concern about the Good Neighbor Policy, as the officer will turn on the camera when approaching the door.

Pat Meade brought attention to the B1 section, the section that addresses immediate threats to officer safety, stating he recognizes and understands the need for safety first. Chief Jones stated he doesn't want to see footage where an officer is more worried about turning on the camera when he/she is being shot at.

A question was asked about when a supervisor would tell officers not to use the camera (Section C1), to which Chief Jones suggested that if an officer were coming to give a presentation, the supervisor may direct them to not wear the BWC.

Pat Meade asked about public record requests for BWC video footage, to which Chief Jones said we were researching release policies and waiting on legislation to be passed regarding what is releasable and what is not. Meade followed up with asking if there's been any issues associated with the union contract, to which Chief Jones advised there hasn't been any issue yet.

An audience member wanted clarification and Chief Jones confirmed that officers do not have the ability to erase or edit video footage. The officers do have the ability to view and tag the video.

D. NEXT MEETING

Before our next meeting was discussed, Amber Franklin offered her condolences on behalf of the commission concerning the two Westerville PD officers who were killed in the line of duty.

Pat Meade reminded everyone about the 3/1/2018 disabilities meeting.

Amber Franklin said she spoke with Jacqueline Rioja Velarde and Rioja Velarde mentioned yesterday's school shooting in Florida and suggested the commission members have a conversation about what protocols are in place in an active shooter situation.

Linda Kimball asked Chief Jones what he got out of the conflict resolution training that was brought up a previous meeting, to which he said he enjoyed meeting different people and thought it would help him more when dealing with employees.

Linda Kimball mentioned that on Wednesday at the Armstrong Student Center at 7 p.m., The Miami Student will host a public safety forum, City Matters.

Shana Rosenberg complimented Lt. Lara Fening on her social media presence and her amazing community engagement.

Chief Jones introduced Anthony Jones, our newest police officer, to the members of the commission.

The next meeting will be held on April 19, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the Oxford Courthouse.

ITEM 5.

Adjourn.

Amber Franklin moved to adjourn at 7:53 p.m.; Shana Rosenberg seconded. The motion passed 4-0-0.