

**These minutes are subject to change by the PSRB
at its next meeting**

University of Rochester
Public Safety Review Board
Minutes of Meeting
February 6, 2019

Present: Francis Price (partial meeting)
Eldred Chimowitz
Rick Crummins
Holly Crawford
Tony Kinslow
Elizabeth Palermo
Beatriz Gil Gonzalez
Kathy Parrinello

Guest: Mark Fischer

1. Administrative Items

The Board approved the meeting minutes for November 26, 2018.

2. DPS Update

- a. *Unholstering event* Mr. Fischer reported that, on December 31, 2018 there was an unholstering event near Strong Memorial Hospital. A patient that had been subject to mental hygiene arrest left the hospital against medical advice and stole a small facilities vehicle called a Kubota. He drove toward a DPS officer who unholstered his weapon because he did not know if the patient was armed and could not see inside the vehicle cab in order to determine that. The patient continued down Elmwood avenue and crashed the vehicle, at which point officers in pursuit unholstered again because the patient refused to show his hands, would not exit the vehicle, and the officers could not determine if he was armed. The patient was then taken into custody.
- b. *Ad Hoc Committee on Arming Proposal.* Mr. Fischer gave an update regarding the ad hoc committee that has been formed to gather data on the recent DPS proposal to add armed posts on the River Campus and at Eastman. DPS has received questions from the committee, on topics including jurisdiction, numbers of current officers, diversity of officers, background checks and officer selection, training and complaint response. DPS is working to respond. A meeting with the committee and DPS is scheduled for February 22. The ad hoc committee's recommendation to the PSRB is still due around the end of March.

Mr. Fischer also reported that he has attended approximately 17-18 meetings with community groups outside the University regarding the proposal. At a recent

meeting of the Southwest Common Council meeting it was apparent that many attendees had been confused about the purpose underlying the recent arming proposal and were most concerned about DPS officers patrolling in the community. Mr. Fischer has appreciated the opportunity to educate our neighbors about the powers of sworn officers, the extensive training they receive, the existence for several years of armed officers at the medical center, and the limits of DPS's jurisdiction away from campus. Other attendees at these meetings have included local legislators and an RPD captain.

- c. *Training and Recruitment Update* Mr. Fischer reported that there are currently 49 armed officers and the DPS is authorized to have 51. All recently passed requalification training. Captain Brock recently attended a two-day "article 35" – use of force – training, which he will be using to train new and veteran officers during requalification. Other upcoming training sessions include procedural justice and law enforcement bystander training.

The DPS has been doing more direct hiring to Peace Officer status, vs. hiring non-sworn officers who then train to become POs. This reflects increased interest in the positions among highly qualified candidates and is a more efficient process leading more quickly to the employment of sworn officers. A new class of 25 started February 4, and 11 members of the class are underrepresented minorities. An additional three are white females. In 2018, 29 of 44 new hires were underrepresented minorities or female. Mr. Fischer is proud of the DPS's record on diversity. He also reiterated that there will always be a place in the DPS force for security officers who do not wish to become Peace Officers.

3. PSRB Expansion

The board discussed a request from the Dean of the College to add the AS&E Dean of Students to the PSRB. All members supported the proposal, and also supported adding the Eastman School of Music's equivalent position – along with an Eastman student government representative. The board agreed that adding the AS&E and Eastman deans would provide for greater continuity in considering the impact of DPS activities upon students at both campuses. The board agreed to recommend to President Feldman that he expand the membership of the PSRB to include these personnel.