



To: Mayor Tari Renner
City Council
City Manager

From: Arthur E Taylor, Chairman
Public Safety Community Relations Board

Subject: 2019 Public Safety Community Relations Board Annual Report

Date: June 18, 2020

This Annual Report is intended to provide a brief summary of activities of the Public Safety Community Relations Board (PSCRB) for the 2019.

Highlights

- Review of Board Rules and Materials Developed
- Review of Monthly and Quarterly Meetings dates
- Presentations to and Feedback from the Community
- Report on Complaint(s) Presented
- Board Rule Amendment

Review of Establishment of Board Rules and Materials Developed

The PSCRB held its first meeting of the year on January 9, 2019. The board was sworn in, introductions of board members, staff and Bloomington Police Department Chief and Assistant Chiefs. The Enacting Ordinance was reviewed. Discussion was coordinated on topics that included:

- Confirmation of Chair and Vice-Chair
- Discussion of Draft Board Rules
- Future Meeting dates

PSCRB board Chair and Vice-Chair were confirmed and Board Rules were reviewed. Community posters and brochures were reviewed.

Review of Monthly and Quarterly Meeting dates

The PSCRB established Monthly Meetings for the second Wednesday of each month. Quarterly Meetings were scheduled for the third Wednesday of each quarter. Meeting places were alternated between City Hall, the YWCA Community Room, Wayman AME Church, Mt Pisgah Baptist Church, Mid Central Community Action and City of Refuge Ministries.

Presentations to and Feedback from the Community

Monthly meetings included reports from the Bloomington Police Department on the number of complaints received in the previous month, year to date and pending investigation. Future meeting dates, locations and pending discussion items are also discussed.

The Bloomington Police Reported that for 2019, there were 11 total complaints received, compared with 20 complaints in 2018 and 15 in 2017.

Topic at Quarterly Meetings included:

- Introduction of Board Members
- Review of the Enacting Ordinance
- Review of the Board Rules
- Review of PSCRB Posters and Brochures (Attachment A and B)
- Review of the Bloomington Police Department Complaint Review Process
- Review of the PSCRB Request for Review Process
- Presentation on Community Policing
- Presentation on Police Recruiting, Application Process and Qualifications for becoming a Bloomington Police Officer
- Community Forum on the hiring of the next Bloomington Police Chief
- Presentation of Axon Body-Worn Cameras
- Presentation of PSCRB Five Questions to Stakeholders and Community
 - Is there clarity that the PSCRB cannot review complaints until after an initial complaint is filed with the Bloomington Police Department?
 - Is there clarity that after the BPD sends its response, a person must complete a PSCRB form to request a review by the PSCRB?
 - Are fears of completing a PSCRB form being addressed by the processes the BPD and PSCRB have established?
 - Do stakeholders groups still believe a need exist for the PSCRB?
 - If so, why have no complaints been received?
- Suggestion / Questions

Feedback and questions from the Community was received well by the board and action taken from suggestions.

Report on Complaint(s) Presented

The PSCRB received its first Request for Review in January, 2019 through the City Legal Department. (19-R-001) The board reviewed the citizens Request for Review and requested additional document from the BPD and Legal Department. Following all established board rules and maintaining confidentiality guidelines, the board found the BPD had followed its complaint review process exonerating the police officers in question and did not recommend any policy or practice revisions.

The PSCRB received its second Request for Review in December, 2019 through the City Legal Department. (19-R-002) Information was gathered and prepared for review of the board, which occurred in January, 2020.

** (Results will also be included in the annual report for 2020. Following all established board rules and maintaining confidentiality guidelines, the board found the BPD had followed its complaint review process exonerating the police officers in question. The board did recommend that policy language be written to insure the timeliness of communication to citizens when their Illinois Vehicle Code violations are voided/cancelled or removed. These results were

communicated to the citizen with copies of the communication sent to the City Manager and Bloomington Police Department.)

Action Items: Board Rule Amendment Recommendations

The PSCRB recommended the following Board Rules amendments which were approved in 2019 by the City Council:

- Chapter 1 Section 3 first sentence:
The Board shall annually, on the first meeting in **MAY**, elect a Chair and Vice Chair.
- Add a paragraph to Chapter 1, Section 3:
The board Chair, or designee, shall be a liaison to the City Council for the purposes of reporting to the board pertinent City Council activity.

Attachment A: PSCRB Poster

Attachment B: PSCRB Brochure (English)

Attachment C: PSCRB Brochure (Spanish)