

**CITY OF COCOA
COCOA POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS
ADVISORY BOARD**

February 11, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Cocoa Police Community Relations Advisory Board was held on February 11, 2021 at City Hall, 65 Stone Street Cocoa, FL, as publicly noticed.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Edmond called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M

Chairperson Edmond led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Board Member Wash provided the invocation.

<u>ROLL CALL:</u>	Alton Edmond	Chairperson
	Aldon Bookhardt	Board Member
	Michael Klug	Board Member
	Kathy Hamilton-Brown	Board Member
	Al Boettjer	Board Member
	Jarvis Wash	Board Member
	Tammy Findlay-Bell	Board Member
	Anthony Garganese	City Attorney

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Alton Edmond	Chairperson
	Aldon Bookhardt	Board Member
	Michael Klug	Board Member
	Kathy Hamilton-Brown	Board Member
	Jarvis Wash	Board Member
	Tammy Findlay-Bell	Board Member

<u>ABSENT:</u>	Al Boettjer	Board Member
	Anthony Garganese	City Attorney

STAFF PRESENT:

Pat Dovale; Commander, John Hankins; Chief of Police, Mike Blake; Mayor Alex Goins; Deputy Major, Stockton Whitten; City Manager

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES:

AGENDA: REGULAR MEETING OF February 11, 2021

MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF September 24, 2020:

- **MOTION by Board Member Wash ; SECONDED by Board Member Klug to approve the agenda from the regular meeting of February 11, 2021 and minutes from the regular meeting of September 24, 2020.**

AYES: EDMOND, BOOKHARDT, KLUG, HAMILTON-BROWN, WASH, FINDLAY-BELL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

III. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF CLOSED CITIZEN COMPLAINT CASES:

20-19-cc Unprofessional Conduct- Unfounded

Chairperson Edmond asked if there has been any services put into place or offered to the officer. Edmond acknowledged the officer didn't break policy but then stated that from the word of other officers that work with him and his behavior on the scene, he could have some type of mental health or an emotional issue and wants to make sure the right services has been offered to the officer.

Commander Pat Dovale acknowledged that there were concerns from his coworkers. Those Coworkers have reached out to talk to the officer and recommend some tips. Because of certain restrictions this wasn't noted in the report. **Commander Pat Dovale** then stated that since that event there hasn't been any issues with this officer.

20-20-cc Pointing Firearm at driver – Unfounded

21-02-cc Harassment – Unfounded

Chairperson Edmond expressed that the other complaints that give him a little cause of concern is Complaint number 20-20-cc and 21-02-cc because the allegations made are serious allegations. **Chairperson Edmond** shared based on the information the Board is given, The Board can't confirm or check any of the information. **Chairperson Edmond** then asked if the Board wanted to request video to confirm and view, if they could do so.

Commander Pat Dovale shared that he believes previous administration didn't want to provide video to review because of time constraints, but he would be willing to look into it. **Commander Pat Dovale** then stated that an option to look into could be sending a link out to the board members to review at your own time.

Committee Member Bookhardt then asked if the link would be sent out before the meeting or after the meeting.

Chairperson Edmond shared that he believes his understanding is that they would make a motion at the meeting to provide us the video after the meeting.

Commander Pat Dovale then stated that he would be sending out the videos along with all the other documents in the Agenda packets so they would have the videos before the meeting.

IV. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Chairperson Edmond opened the floor to Citizens for open discussion.

City of Cocoa Citizens spoke and participated in the open discussion with The Police Advisory Board.

Roberta Nadeau spoke about some issues she's been having for a long period of time now with her neighbors.

Deputy Major Goins shared details he is aware of in regards to this complaint.

- **MOTION by Board Member Klug; SECONDED by Board Member Findlay-Bell to bring this complaint back in 60 days with an update on how the issue was resolved.**

AYES: EDMOND, BOOKHARDT, KLUG, , WASH, FINDLAY-BELL

NAY: HAMILTON-BROWN

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (5-1)

Board Member Hamilton Brown stated that she believes 60 days is too long seeing how this has been going on for years. Hamilton Brown then stated that the complainant needs to have a safety plan.

Board Member Klug stated the reasoning for 60 days is so they can see the progress and know what to do in the future in case the same type of problem

arises.

Chairperson Edmond shared the only problem is that this Board only meets every 60 days and asked **Board Member Hamilton Brown** if she is calling for an emergency meeting to have a 30 day update.

Board Member Hamilton Brown stated no, but she wants to make sure a safety plan is in place for the complainant and her family.

Board Member Wash asked **Commander Dovale** how long they think they would need to resolve the issue.

Commander Pat Dovale stated that they have tried several different tactics and are looking into different ways to approach the issue. The time all depends on how the property Owners respond.

Reverend JD Dennis shared that in 2018 when he was fighting for a Police Review Board that the intent was supposed to be to hear active cases.

Reverend JD Dennis stated he believes they are coming up short on evidence. He then stated that he wants to make a public request that the board starts reviewing active cases.

Chairperson Edmond shared that he believes this board isn't the proper form to share that request with because if it's not in the board's charter then they can't do it. **Chairperson Edmond** then stated he believes it would need to be requested to City Council.

Deputy Major Alex Goins stated that it would need to be looked into further.

Board Member Wash shared he believes a motion needs to be made to move this forward so that this issue doesn't keep arising at The Police Advisory Board.

- **MOTION by Board Member Wash; SECONDED by Chairperson Edmond to ask the City Attorney for a 60 day timeline in order to determine if The Police Advisory Board has the power to address open cases, such that Reverend JD Dennis can move to City Council to make that request.**

AYES: EDMOND, BOOKHARDT, KLUG, HAMILTON-BROWN, WASH, FINDLAY-BELL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

Alex Greenwood asked if his request at the last meeting was covered under Item number 3. He stated he understands there has been change in staff and might not have been addressed. Alex Greenwood added he has met with the former Police Chief and a council member and that the issue was not resolved.

Chairperson Edmond suggested that he speaks to **Commander Pat Dovale** to ensure he has all items and try to add to the next agenda.

Board Member Hamilton-Brown shared she has noticed that the City sends out newsletters and The Police Advisory Board is not listed in there. Hamilton Brown shares she believes it needs to be added because people are unaware and there is a member on the board from each area that can help and represent the Citizens of Cocoa.

Chairperson Edmond asks **Mayor Mike Blake** and **Deputy Major Goins** what would need to be done to be added to the FYI Newsletter.

Deputy Major Alex Goins shared that he will take care of it and work on getting it done. He also shared that they can also update The Police Advisory Video and can also reach out to Space Coast Daily and other places. He will work with Samantha Senger to get that done.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, the Police Advisory Board Meeting of February 11, 2021 was adjourned.

- **MOTION by Board Member Klug; SECONDED by Board Member Hamilton-Brown to adjourn the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2021**

AYES: EDMOND, BOOKHARDT, KLUG, HAMILTON-BROWN, WASH, FINDLAY-BELL

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY (6-0)

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:45 P.M.