

City of Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission (OPOC)

Regular Meeting Minutes March 1, 2016

Commissioner Debra Conklin welcomed the public. Commissioners A.J. VanderPol, Ladd Smith and Scott Richter were present. Commissioner Jenny Rose had an excused absence. Counsel Breean Beggs has been elected to City Council and OPOC is looking for new counsel.

VanderPol made a motion to approve minutes from the 2/2/16 regular meeting. Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioners discussed having brief minutes for the 6/2015 meeting. Conklin and Richter will work on them. VanderPol moved to table approval of the minutes temporarily. Smith seconded. Motion carried.

VanderPol did a ride along with SPD Officer Laiva. It was a good experience and he highly recommended it to citizens. Smith viewed 3 hours of law enforcement re-certification. He went to the Police Advisory Committee on 2/9/16, met w/ Logue on 2/11/16, and signed up for police academy.

Richter also attended the Police Advisory Committee. He was a panelist on the community faith-based meeting, and said these meetings are a great way for police officers to engage the community. Conklin will sit in on in-service training this Friday. Upcoming meetings are South Perry Business Association, East Central Council meeting, West Central Central Coalition, and SPARC. She served on a panel with Naomi Quarles-Burnley.

Training for Enhancing the Survival Mindset, geared for women's safety, will take place: Level I in March and April, and Level II in May. The cost is \$10.00. Further information is available on the SPD website. The NACOLE Annual Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 9/25-9/29, 2016.

Interim Ombudsman Bart Logue gave his first monthly report. It's been a whirlwind of activity and a great month. Conklin said his accomplishments have been pretty impressive. He's had 2 goals: to understand the scope of what needs to be done and to reach out as many times as possible to citizens. He went to the City Council Public Safety Committee meeting his first day, attended the Police Advisory Committee, SPARC, and a community stakeholders meeting with Breean Beggs. He met twice with Mayor Condon to discuss the 4 USDOJ recommendation items pertaining to OPO and OPOC. He's confident we will do well when USDOJ returns. From the Chief on down, he's met many SPD officials. He's also met with city administrators and attorneys. Marty Huseman attended the Whitworth Volunteer Fair.

There are 109 cases for 2016: a combined total from Internal Affairs, inside SPD and from OPO. Out of these, 82 fall outside the 180 day window that can be used for police discipline. Those are closed, but he will still review them. He has started with case number 83, and has certified the first case.

He has sent two cases back for additional steps. He will focus on specifics that will answer the complainant's questions. There will be a link on OPO website that provides more info as to how he has come to his decision, and made sure the process was thorough.

He wants to be more involved in community outreach, and have an open dialogue. He has done 4 ride alongs with SPD officers, and recommended that citizens do one. He attended an awards ceremony for police officers. He can now supervise, and as Luvimae Omana is now full time, the office is open Monday through Friday, from 9am to 5 pm.

He said it was very valuable to meet one-on-one meetings with Commissioners, and would like to do so again this month. He had 45 individual citizen contacts that lasted from 45 minutes to 2 hours. He promised not to let any cases expire, and appreciates the opportunity to be here.

During the Public Forum, Mr. Alan McDowell read a statement about involuntary commitment and brain-damaging drugs.

Ms. Catherine Isabel spoke about signing a health care release in October, and that nothing came of it. Beggs has been trying to find out the information she needs. Conklin said that there are some things that attorneys can find out legally because they are officers of the court. Conklin said her goal is for Ms. Isabel to have as much information as possible.

Mr. Dave Plemmons asked if someone could establish a calendar that would let interested citizens know accurate information about when public meetings related to city business will occur.

Conklin gave an update on the visa process for Mr. Humayun. The immigration attorney expects to have an answer by 3/18/16.

Commissioners had a discussed about timelines and possible contingency plans. VanderPol moved to extend the timeline for Mr. Humayun to submit the necessary paperwork to 3/21/16. Richter seconded. Motion carried. Commissioners looked at 3/21/16 as a potential date for a special meeting.

Conklin said that Lieutenant King or Major Lundgren may be able to give a presentation on the new use of force policies; this could be at a regular meeting, or at a different time when other groups could join us.

Commissioners may postpone future work on the OPOC procedures until they have new counsel.

Conklin declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Submitted by Marty Huseman and approved by Commission on March 21, 2016.