



Office of Police Ombudsman Commission Minutes

November 13, 2018

Meeting Minutes: 2:45

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm

Attendance

- OPOC Commissioners present: Ladd Smith, James Wilburn, Elizabeth Kelley
- OPOC Commissioners absent: Jenny Rose
- Legal Counsel: Dennis Hession
- OPO staff members present: Bart Logue, Luvimae Omana, Christina Coty

Items Session

- The Agenda was unanimously approved
- The October 27, 2018 special meeting minutes were unanimously approved. September 18 minutes deferred to the December meeting for approval

Public Forum

- David Brookbank –
 - Concerns regarding being trespassed by D. Harvey at the Intermodal Center

OPO Report

- OPO report highlights
 - Combination of September and October numbers – 222 contacts, 14 complaints, 11 Referrals, 33 OPO Interviews, and 36 IA Interviews
 - 52 meetings with SPD
 - Increase with cases regarding 1st amendment violation
- OPO 18-32 / C18-055 Case Discussion
 - Demeanor complaint
 - Demeanor is considered a policy violation
 - Ombudsman believed that the case was not investigated thoroughly or objectively
 - The Ombudsman stated the he only cared about the process of the investigation, and not the outcome of the investigation. Proper interviews were not conducted in this case, and as a result, gaps remained about what happened that day.
 - Following SMC 04.32, the Ombudsman appealed the case through the Police Chief.
 - SPD Representative – Assistant Chief Lundgren
 - The officer was working on the dignitary protection team and was not in uniform. The officer stated that there were 30 protestors who were “yelling and being rude”. Asst. Chief Lundgren state that If the vehicle would have been damaged and removed from service the person could have been charged with a felony.
 - While there were things that could have been done better in the interaction, Chief Meidl didn’t find it as misconduct.

Commissioners' Business

- OPO 18-32 / C18-055 Case decision
 - What are the steps the OPOC need to take?
 - OPOC needs to decide who they will side with, the Ombudsman or the Chief of Police. OPOC is the ultimate authority in what happens to the case
 - Motion entertained that the OPOC would direct Internal Affairs to investigate the complaint further, and letter was sent to Chief Meidl
 - Motion Passed unanimously
- OPOC retreat debrief
 - Special meeting occurred on October 27th
 - NACOLE President, Brian Corr, facilitated retreat
 - Sub-Committees were discussed during retreat
 - Use of Force racial disparity / mental health sub-committee – Motion Passed
 - Annual report sub-committee – Motion Passed
 - OPOC correspondence sub-committee – Motion Passed
- Chilling effect in the OPO Response to SPD on Recommendation R18-05
 - Process of filing a complaint due to truthfulness warning – discussion ensued
 - Motion entertained to write a letter to City Council requesting a change to the ordinance
 - Motion passed
- OPOC response to CFJ & Mayor letters
 - The Mayor stated that the concerns raised by CFJ regarding the OPO & OPOC had not been raised properly and that the proper way is to submit a complaint against the Chief of Police
 - Motion entertained to file a complaint against the Chief of Police
 - Motion passed
- Full Time Administrative Specialist
 - Motion entertained to write letter requesting funding and support to City Council.
 - Motion passed
- OPOC 2019 Elections
 - Chair
 - Jenny Rose – nominated, motion passed
 - Vice-Chair
 - Ladd Smith – nominated, motion passed
- December Meeting date change
 - December 11th – Motion Passed
- PAR – Executive Session
 - 7:50pm – 8:16pm

Motion Passes or Fails: 7

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:18PM

Note: Minutes are summarized by staff. A video of the meeting is on file - Spokane Office of Police Ombudsman Commission

<https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/commissions/ombudsman-commission/>