



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

College Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for August 25, 2022

2:00pm – 3:00pm, Zoom

Committee Members Present: Joel Peterson, John Parker, Kimberly Tapia, Nadia Sayeh, Darius Spearman, Caitlin Tiffany, David Mehlhoff, John Bromma, Anna Liza Manzo, Neill Kovrig, Joseph Ramos, Nancy Schumaker, Patrick Velasquez

Committee Members Absent: Daniel Brislin, Kimberly Palek, Kevin Branson, Marie Migambi, Cat Le, Emily Smith, Xi Chen, Gerald Brown, Aaron Burgess

Meeting commenced 2:03 pm

John Parker asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Darius asked to continue discussion regarding tasers and mental health professionals from the previous meeting, there was no vote or resolution on these. Today's agenda will now include item 5. Acquisition of Tasers and item 6. Hiring Mental Health Professionals. The minutes from July 21, 2022 meeting were not fully transcribed and circulated in advance of this meeting. July minutes will be presented prior to the next meeting with the minutes for today.

Chief Ramos presented an overview of the SDCCD Police Department including hiring procedures, trainings, mental health protocols, community policing, and complaint investigations.

Patrick addressed community confusion about the need for City College to have SDCCD police presence when the campus is in close proximity to San Diego Police Department and asked how the dynamics work for all of the campuses. Chief Ramos clarified that when the district has its own police department, they are able to have a say in the hiring and training needs that a municipality would not. He also elaborated on the location of the San Diego Police Department as being offices but not where on-duty officers are deployed to calls from. Kimberly T. invited everyone to take the tour of the SDCCD Dispatch Call Center where she can go into details at length about how calls are triaged and dispatched to officers. She also shared that the district officers are able to determine how long they need to stay on a scene or process a call, whereas San Diego PD may leave an active scene to respond to another call. Chief Ramos concluded that a lot of the calls our Dispatch receives would be considered low priority calls to San Diego PD and would likely result in a delay or no response at all.

Patrick asked if the committee could see a general overview of the budget to get an idea of what the annual expenditures are. VC Peterson stated that they have not seen final numbers from Budget and Finance yet. There are also additional concepts to consider including grant funding for mental health professionals so details are not ready to present yet. His goal is to present the fully transparent budget to this committee. Chief Ramos and VC Peterson stated that when the numbers will be shared when finalized.

Patrick asked if ethnicity is documented when individuals make a complaint so that aggregate information is collected? Chief confirmed that ethnicity is documented when a formal complaint is investigated.

John Parker addressed forming a PAC bylaw subcommittee that was briefly discussed during the previous meeting. Neill, Caitlin and Darius volunteered to work on forming this subcommittee and will update the PAC committee with recommendations.

Chief Ramos shared that during previous discussions related to de-escalation processes and tools needed to use the least amount of force, the SDCCD Police Department is the only agency in the county that did not have

tasers and it would be difficult to explain why their department used greater force without having them because they had not proceeded with purchasing tasers. The department has now purchased tasers and officers are being trained how to use them. Chief shared that there was not a single isolated incident that prompted the need to purchase the tasers but rather providing our officers with this tool to be used to de-escalate situations. Darius shared feedback that he's received from his students and there is an overall feeling of intimidation with the police presence on campus, so why would there be a need for additional weaponry if there isn't a specific incident to warrant the need to have tasers? Chief confirmed that having the tasers will provide another option that can be used if there is a threat on campus. Understanding both the Chief's position and the students' position, Darius stated that he does not endorse the tasers and objects to any impression that this committee has endorsed the tasers without taking a position. Caitlin shared some general background information about tasers and addressed her concern that their use could accidentally escalate situations. Nancy asked to consider a variety of perspectives depending on varying situations, including use of less lethal force. John Parker asked the committee if they want to submit recommendation to the district of support, no support or no position at this point. This committee agreed to have more discussion before making a decision. This item will be tabled to the next meeting, and, request was made to include the types of tasers and a brief overview of the officer training being provided.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07 pm