College Police Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for October 5, 2023
2:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom

Committee Members Present: Joel Peterson, John Parker, Kimberly Tapia, Jack Beresford, Nadia Sayeh, Darius Spearman, Jessica Varnado-Swall, Stacy Surwilo, Kimberly Palek, Anna Liza Manzo, Miski Abdi, Adriana Dos Santos, Aiden Factor (proxy for Saigel Ghotra), Joseph Ramos, Nancy Schumaker, Patrick Velasquez

Committee Members Absent: Caitlin Tiffany, David Mehlhoff, Kevin Branson, Neill Kovrig, Ixchel Diaz, Saigel Ghotra, Gerald Brown, Aaron Burgess

Guest Attendee: Aimee Gallagher, Associate Vice Chancellor Employee Relations

Meeting commenced 2:05 pm

John asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented, approved with unanimous consent.

John asked for a motion to approve the minutes from September 8, 2023, approved with unanimous consent as distributed.

Committee membership designation will be tabled to the next meeting.

Chief Ramos shared updates on notable police investigations, incident calls and trainings. During the month of September, the police department received 825 calls for service to the communication center. They responded to 1,690 security checks (250 of those being intrusion alarms); and 11 staff and student assists including escorts. They completed 71 crime and arrest reports including 9 misdemeanors, 5 felonies, 35 citations, and facilitated 4 protective custody for mental health evaluations. Noteworthy incidents included: a Fentanyl overdose near 10th/C St. where college officers administered Narcan and life saving measures to get the subject breathing again while waiting for an ambulance, a response to City College where a subject was attempting to record a female while using the restroom, and a response to Mesa College where a lewd conduct incident occurred near a student. He also shared that he and Kimberly T. recently participated in the Mental Health and Crisis Response Collaboration monthly meeting. There was discussion regarding the role of the clinician and they will provide updates during an upcoming meeting. College Police will be attending an upcoming new hire onboarding event at City College to give a brief presentation. They are scheduling meet and greets with the campuses, Mid City is scheduled for Oct. 13th. He recently participated in a safety video that will be presented to City College and offered to contribute to something that could go out to the entire district if there is interest.

John introduced the new committee members in attendance, Jessica Varnado-Swall and Stacy Surwilo will be replacing John Bromma. He thanked all of the student representatives and acknowledged Aiden Factor who was attending on behalf of Saigel Ghotra from Miramar.

Vice Chancellor Peterson provided some information regarding the district’s recently adopted budget for this year. Approximately $650M is considered operating budget for the entire district and a little over $8M of that is the police department. The police department budget is primarily all salaries and benefits with the exception of roughly $400,000 allocated for equipment, operations, and office supplies. He confirmed that the district did not add any new police officer positions for this fiscal year, but will continue to fill current vacancies due to turnover. Chief Ramos did not currently know how much was allotted for training but shared that a lot of the training our officers participate in is offered free of charge through the regional training facility. The police department budget does not include the parking services department, which is currently an enterprise service, intended to generate its own revenues through parking permits and services.
Vice Chancellor Peterson provided information on the automated parking services recently discussed. The various bargaining units including the Academic Senate Presidents have supported it. District Parking Services will use a database provided to them that will allow them to verify if a student has purchased a district parking permit. If a parking permit is not visible, a handheld camera device pointed at the license plate will scan the plate and compare it to the permit database to confirm if there is a permit for that plate. This will be a faster process for the service officers to verify permits rather than walking around the parking lots and structures. Neither the device nor the database will be able to disclose any other individual information such as outstanding parking tickets or violations, this technology will only allow access to parking permit data. If a student forgets to hang their permit or it falls down, the scanner can validate if a current permit has been purchased and no citation will be issued. Additional license plate numbers may be added to an individual permit if a student or employee drives more than one vehicle registered to them.

Chief Ramos shared that a new cadet pilot program will be opening up soon. There will be four positions available under the current college parking assistant NANCE position that will be open to all of the campuses. The cadets will wear a polo with a College Police Cadet logo while working part-time cross training with the College Service Officers to conduct safety checks, and working with the dispatchers and clerical staff. This will not be an internship; the positions will be paid and most likely have a term limit. He is still working with HR to finalize the program with hopes it will be ready to launch next year.

The next meeting will be November 3, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm