

Springfield Police Advisory Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 5, 2021, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Committee Members Present: Joe Pishioneri-Councilor, Brittney de Alicante – Cultural Minority Community, Michael Bean – Local Business, Jack Martin – Neighborhood At-Large (2), Teresa Dillon – Neighborhood At-Large (3), Jenna McCulley – School District 19, Eric Adams – Willamalane Parks

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 6:01pm. Roll call completed. Barry Lind communicated absence due to schedule conflict.
2. Election of New Vice-Chair
 - a. Joe Pishioneri motioned for Terri Dillon as vice-chair. Terri accepted. Michael Bean seconded. All present voted in favor of Terri Dillon as vice-chair.
3. Minutes Approval for June 3, 2021 Meeting – Michael Bean motioned to approve. Joe Pishioneri seconded. All approved minutes as written.
4. Business From the Audience
 - a. Amy Cothron – Suggested community outreach other than Coffee with a Cop to reach other sections of the community. Shared update and additional concerns on the complaint issued with the Police Department.
5. Committee Response
 - a. Chief provided update on additional follow up performed by Springfield PD on Amy Cothron’s complaint referenced in business from the audience.
6. Business from Springfield PD
 - a. SPD Update:
 - i. Shared update on additional hiring efforts and processes. Optimistic regarding multiple hires in the next 30 days and additional individuals after that.
 - ii. Provided updates on National Night Out (NNO) events and multiple locations. NNO events had positive face-to-face interactions with the community and was an overall success. There was a small protest at the NNO event at Jesse Main Park for a brief period, where people expressed their rights to share views and they were heard. Jesse Main Park is near the location of a protest that involved police conflict approximately one year prior.
 - b. IDFIT (Interagency Deadly Force Investigation Team) Discussion with Assistant D.A. Chris Parosa
 - i. Chris Parosa shared background regarding his primary role as a trial team leader at the District Attorney’s office and to assist Patty Perlow, the elected District Attorney. Mr. Parosa’s role with IDFIT came about largely because an independent critical incident review of the officer involved shooting incident of Stacy Kenny. The independent review was performed by Michael Gennaco.
 - o Mr. Parosa shared information regarding the makeup of the IDFIT investigation team, including representation from each law enforcement agency from the local community. The roles and participation of various agency members were discussed.
 - o Mr. Parosa shared a status update after review of Mr. Gennaco’s independent review report. The DA’s office determined several recommendations for

changes to IDFIT policy made sense. A work group to evaluate recommendations and modifications to current IDFIT policy and protocols was developed. One notable potential change to the IDFIT plan is to require an after action review on every officer involved shooting.

- ii. Michael Bean expressed gratitude for the information and appreciation for the effort to evaluate current IDFIT processes and implementing recommendations.
- iii. Brittney de Alicante asked if there are repercussions for officers not following IDFIT protocols. Mr. Parosa advised there are no policies or process to “punish” officers for not following protocols. However, after action review reports will allow for issues or trends to be identified and communicated with agencies and the public. Upon follow up question, Mr. Parosa shared each agency identifies what detective is part of the IDFIT team. Generally, detectives assigned to IDFIT are more experienced, seasoned detectives who do a fantastic job.
- iv. Jenna McCulley thanked Mr. Parosa for the updates on IDFIT’s recent program evaluations. She inquired if more information could be shared about the individual agency role in sharing information with the community regarding IDFIT investigations.
 - o Mr. Parosa provided background information regarding the IDFIT team’s creation, the team’s plan, and how investigations are conducted. The District Attorney’s office acts as the lead agency of IDFIT investigations. Mr. Parosa clarified the IDFIT team is investigating whether the level of use of force was justified or not. Mr. Parosa noted that investigations can take a considerable amount of time, especially with video evidence and report collection and the added complexity of multi-agency investigations. The IDFIT team treats these investigations like any other major investigation case and release of IDFIT investigation updates are determined by the IDFIT team, not the involved agency. Early release of information is avoided as it may tarnish future investigation efforts.
- v. Eric Adams inquired if there are regulatory or other recourse towards detectives not following protocols. Mr. Parosa advised the DA’s office is the lead for the IDFIT team, but each agency has their own unique combination of supervisory requirements from their entity leadership, department management and labor agreements. The DA’s office believes agencies intend to provide their best staff on these high profile cases because they mean a lot to the community and the criminal justice process. All involved are mindful that we want to do the best job possible. Mr. Parosa further noted after action reports will assist with self-evaluation.
- vi. Councilor Joe Pishioneri referenced Mr. Gennaco’s report and inquired about oversight on recommendations that were already part of IDFIT protocols, but were not followed in this incident. Mr. Parosa shared information and acknowledgements related to the incident evaluated by Mr. Gennaco’s report. Mr. Parosa provided additional information regarding how IDFIT member’s associated with the involved agency are involved with IDFIT investigations.

7. Business from the Committee

- a. Upcoming Committee Vacancies – Three upcoming vacancies on the committee due to Johnny Kirschenmann’s resignation, Jack Martin’s term expiration in September 2021 and Isa Aviad’s term expiration in October 2021.
 - i. Brittney inquired about how committee recruitment takes place. Jessica shared information on the City batch recruitment process and the City and Police Department’s joint effort of informing the community of committee vacancies.
 - ii. Many thanks to Jack from the committee and Chief Shearer for his many years of participation on the committee.
- b. Member Information Share Opportunity
 - i. Jessica Crawford shared an update from the City that committee meetings will continue to be virtual through at least October 2021.
 - ii. Michael Bean shared through Oregon Health Authority the newer COVID Delta variant makes continued virtual meetings wise.
 - iii. As a follow up to Amy Cothron’s earlier comment regarding community outreach efforts, Jenna McCulley inquired how community members could share outreach opportunities and ideas with the Police Department. Chief Shearer welcomed any and all ideas. He suggested the general police email, contacting Jessica Crawford, or even calling the general non-emergency number to share ideas.
 - iv. Eric Ward shared thanks to Springfield PD for support to Willamalane with a peak in disruptive behavior and criminal conduct at the local skate park. Willamalane is working on getting additional resources to continue the improved status at the park. Willamalane is also working with other entities on a public service announcement regarding increased vehicle break-ins at trailheads. Willamalane has also posted additional signage advising caution at trailheads. Noted the upcoming Children Celebration gathering.
 - v. Brittney asked if the agenda could incorporate an opportunity for questions after the Chief update.
 - vi. Michael Bean asked Chief about morale. Chief Shearer shared morale is difficult because of multiple factors that can impact it on a daily basis. Staffing is a huge challenge. The Springfield community is generally supportive of the police department, which is a boost to morale.

Adjourned at 7:15pm.