

MOA Public Safety Advisory Commission Meeting

October 21, 2020
Teams Video Conference

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present

Erich Reed
Sharon Chamard
Garry Gilliam
Amber Fullmer
Emily Edenshaw
Kendra Kloster
Charlene Apok

Members Absent

Andalyn Pace

Representatives Present

BC Steve Mendive, AFD
LT Burington, APD
Andrew Preis, OEM

Call to order Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm, quorum present.

Minutes: September minutes approved. Chamard moves to approve. Gilliam seconds.

Reports

APD, Lieutenant Burington

- Touch base on last month's items
 - Body Cams – Assembly introduced ordinance to go on ballot for body cams AO 2020-116. Work session on 10/30 at 1:10. Call in and meeting number available.
 - Virtual community engagement: MJ working on this. Full staffing in Community Relations but have training with new hire before we can move forward. Did have small Coffee with a Cop virtual event earlier this month.
- Monitoring all elections prep. Aware of potential for conflict w/ intel unit over the next few weeks.
- Camp Abatement still being discussed, unable to abate camps due to shelter situation. Assembly committee on homelessness met today to get emergency shelter up and running as we move into colder months.

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Edenshaw: Would like to reiterate how important it is to continue community engagement, would hate to see this go more than a couple months before we can interface with the community.

Burington: Will email MJ now to advise.

Apok: Inquiring about diversity training scheduled for end of Academy. Will touch base in November.

Burington: Will email with you and academy group to discuss.

OEM, Andrew Preis

- EOC:
 - 231st day of activation for Pandemic Response. Has been awesome to watch different departments come together for the greater good. Steep learning curve, but educational experience.
 - Shelter committee did meet today. Congregate shelter location has max capacity of 376. Walking fine line w/ weather getting colder. Lots of talk about how to decompress the shelter. Recent CDC guidance shows that shelters need to be limited even more than they have been to prevent virus spread. Have been using local hotel rooms to decompress Sullivan. Will have more information forthcoming.
 - Sample collections: Providence site at Lake Otis still operational. Visit Healthcare w/ number of sites around town still also operational. Get regular numbers on how much they collect. Operations managing those contracts. All information is available on Muni COVID Resource website. Muni is sponsoring and does not cost you any money.
 - Continue to distribute cloth face coverings to partnering agencies to distribute to public, particularly vulnerable populations or financially disadvantaged individuals. Have distributed 289,120 face coverings and still have more to go.
 - Continuing to inventory and distribute other PPE items to medical providers to enable them to continue to see patients. Don't want individuals foregoing normal medical care even during pandemic to prevent overload on hospitals by allowing issues to escalate.
 - PIO working hard to keep public informed on emergency orders, updated case numbers, conditions, and CDC guidelines. Using TV, radio and print as well as Nixle and Social Media.
- OEM:
 - Applied for and were granted an annual emergency management grant. \$200k that helps pay OEM staff salary and benefits. Anchorage Assembly approved match for that last week.
 - Public Information Event, Great Alaska Shakeout, ironically had an

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earthquake on that day. Reminded us even during a pandemic other things can happen. OEM working towards prevention of those other things to keep community prepared.

Apok: How much does your office work with ASD regarding reopening schools, it is a very hot topic. Does your planning inform the decisions for ASD? Will PPE options be available for ASD as well?

Preis: Part of nature overall of emergency management is collaboration. ASD has small but mighty Emergency Management office and they are regularly involved in our status update calls at EOC. A lot of what happens at Health Department does inform decision making (example: Contract Tracing).

Apok: If ASD as a safety measure wanted to do batch testing in neighborhoods, does your team have the capacity to support that?

Preis: We would be involved in planning should they decide to do that. If it's large scale it would likely have to go out to contractor. EOC has had many planning sessions w/ ASD during this response. We have absolutely passed PPE between ASD and EOC, they have received masks w/ our distribution effort for teachers/staff/students.

AFD, Battalion Chief Steve Mendive

- Business as usual while we maintain ongoing education for employees and public outreach.
- October is Fire Prevention month. Our team has had large focus on prevention education w/ in home and cooking fires. Because they are the #1 cause of home fires, we wanted to take the opportunity to re-emphasize. Received proclamation from Governor regarding Fire Prevention Month.
- Ballot Initiative for program to refresh cardiac monitors (LifePak) in 2 different areas:
 - Big lift w/ APD, 350 AED defibrillators refreshed in each patrol car w/ new AED with 10-year service plan.
 - AFD increased number of monitors on all apparatus. Also put in new gurneys and transportation systems in ambulances to make moving patients a whole lot safer.
 - Program saved community approximately \$2.8mil. Big thank you to the community for supporting that program. In the past these are funded by bonds a few pieces at a time. Under new program, we lease the equipment, owned by manufacturer.
- Seen routine number of response numbers. Fortunate enough to receive PAPR

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devices to assist our line crew w/ protection from increased risk. Also greatly reduced the number of other PPE items that can now be rerouted to other teams who need them.

Chamard: How does lack of abatement affect risk of fire, particularly during colder months. Is this expected to be a problem?

Mendive: Any fire is something we worry about, whether in homeless camp or otherwise. We do see some fires in camp settings are usually unattended events, smoldering fire in unoccupied space. Don't often see large progressive events in winter. We do rely heavily on APD for prevention. More so than fire, we worry about individuals having Carbon Monoxide events, having fires in enclosed spaces.

Chamard: How does AFD deal w/ individuals burning when trying to stay warm.

Mendive: We aren't called out to a lot of those especially in the winter. We will address unauthorized fires and extinguish when necessary. We do not engage when using small cooking stoves, etc. when used appropriately. We attempt to educate in those situations of more appropriate methods and utilize APD when necessary to move individuals from the area and help them make good safe choices.

Old Business

New Business

- **AR 2020-339, Passed by Assembly on 9/29**

Reed: Original resolution required PSAC to review policy and make recommendations. New altered resolution removes a bit of that responsibility, now appears to be more reasonable given the intent of the commission. Language of resolution now encourages communication between Assembly, APD and PSAC. Important that we all review the resolution and come to an agreement. We now need to send reports quarterly to Assembly regarding issues we have reviewed.

Gilliam: Did follow the process, have been reluctant to say anything, agree that we should be more in an advisory role than supervisory role. There are great opportunities for us to connect with citizens, hear their concerns, pass concerns through Mayor's office to work on Policy and Procedures. If the mayor decides he/she would like us to review items, we can be used as a resource, rather than an oversight. Just in APD there are thousands of situations that could require policy change. None of that should have to go through a review process from a civilian commission. Suspect there will be additional changes before this becomes official.

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Chamard: Most folks are aware that municipality is in process of planning a new group, Equal Opportunity type group, that would take the place of the Police Community Board. That is another avenue that citizens will have to discuss issues they have with the police. Chair of PSAC would now be able to request any policy or procedure from APD in future. Does give commission the opportunity should we chose to exercise that to review policies independent of those being referred. Example: police involved shootings, outcry from community, gives us the opportunity to discuss w/ members of community and review policy.

Reed: Document does give us more structure when reaching out to community and making recommendations.

Edenshaw: Reached out to Assemblywoman Zaletel, she was clear that we would not be in a supervisory role, which prompted edits to the document. Don't want to set a precedent for us. My concern is at what point in time do we step in? Are we reactive to events, or will we have an opportunity to be proactive? My understanding is that it was not intended to put us in a supervisory role. Will go back and review initial conversation w/ Megan.

Reed: Dates once policies and procedures have been reviewed and made public, we can begin taking public comment regarding those. At that time, and anytime thereafter we can bring forward concerns. This will open the doors quite a bit more for our ability to review, without putting the ownness on us to supervise those policies.

Gilliam: I would also like to be more proactive than reaction. Community engagement is key to that. We should be hearing from them about any concerns they have with posted policies, and lack thereof. Then the Mayor's office and Assembly will hear from us. When we hear concerns, we can definitely ask for policy review and describe what we are hearing and we can be engaged. The closer we are to the community, the better we will hear what really concerns our citizens.

Chamard: I think we are fortunate we live in a city with a professional police department that keeps up to date with how policing industry is changing nationally. With that said I sometimes wish APD was more proactive w/ preventative training and outreach.

Reed: Web link to APD policies and procedures:

<https://www.muni.org/Departments/police/Pages/PoliciesProcedures.aspx>

Apok: Previously mentioned wanting to do engagement and listening session with our community. Would like to get communication out to organize that outside our standing meetings. Part of why this resolution was put forward is because there were no other avenues to participate. Everyone should have the ability to have input, and if that funnels through this commission I'm in full support of that.

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Kloster: How are these meetings advertised?

Ruhl: On municipal website under boards and commissions

Kloster: Look forward to discussing some community outreach, going to community council meetings, getting the community involved and discuss how to better advertise and ask for community input.

Commissioner Comments:

Chamard: Following up on Kendra's comments regarding Community Councils. There are so many, would be nice to have a list and divide between us.

Ruhl: I have a list of community councils and will send w/ meeting minutes.

Reed: Would like to have planning session to discuss outreach to the community. We will email to plan for that.

Next meeting: November 18, 2020 at 6:00

Adjournment: 7:23 p.m.