

VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD

MINUTES of Regular Meeting held on September 14, 2011, 1:05 pm to 2:30 pm Main Boardroom, 7th Floor, 2120 Cambie Street, Vancouver, BC

Board Members Present

Mayor Gregor Robertson
Mary Collins
Wade Grant
Patti Marfleet
Jason McLean
Sheryl Williamson
Glenn Wong

Present

CC Jim Chu
DCC Doug LePard
DCC Adam Palmer
Shona McGlashan, Board Executive Director
Rachelle Radiuk, Board Administrative Assistant

Absent

DCC Warren Lemcke

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm.

Introduction of Board members/staff and Police Executive.

1. Adoption of Regular Meeting Agenda

MOVED/SECONDED:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board approve the Regular Meeting Agenda for September 14, 2011.

CARRIED

2. Approval of Minutes

MOVED/SECONDED:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 20 and September 6, 2011, with added clarification.

CARRIED

3. Delegations

Delegate, Alexis Bracken, spoke regarding a personal legal issue.

Delegate, Menard Caissey, spoke regarding the riot, crime in general, and his personal political aspirations.

4. VPD Strategic Plan update

DCC Adam Palmer introduced Insp. Michelle Davey who presented the 2012-2016 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan established the Department's goals and would be used as a guideline for directing resources and efforts across administrative, investigative and operational sections. Extensive internal and external consultation had taken place resulting in 14 goals divided into 3 main themes:

- crime reduction goals, which included reducing violent crime by 2.5% per year for a total of 12.5% over the next five years; reducing property crime by 5% per year for a total of 25% over the next 5 years; disrupting organized crime groups; combating low-level crimes that impact perceptions of neighbourhood safety; and reducing motor vehicle collisions that result in injury or death by 12.5% over the next 5 years;
- community focussed goals, which included developing and maintaining positive working relationships, including information sharing, within the VPD and with stakeholder agencies in the community; providing public education outreach; providing socially responsible programs and initiatives that benefit youth; and managing resources in an environmentally sustainable manner; and
- organizational development goals, which included supporting career development and succession planning within the Department; supporting employee wellness; developing and implementing initiatives that streamlined administrative processes; and researching, acquiring and utilizing the best technology and infrastructure to assist officers in the investigation of crime and enforcement of the law.

All VPD staff would be provided with a copy of the Strategic Plan and it would be available on the VPD website for public viewing.

Questions and discussion around measurement and quantification of goals, how the Department planned to do things differently to achieve the lofty goals, employee wellness (including families), and the overall vision to be the safest major city in Canada. Request to the Department to provide the Board on a regular basis with statistical comparisons with other major Canadian cities.

MOVED/SECONDED:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board approve public release of the Vancouver Police Department 2012-2016 Strategic Plan.

CARRIED

5. VPD Report: Code Green

Supt. Daryl Wiebe updated the Board on the Green initiatives being undertaken by the Department.

Code Green was a Department-wide program for environmental sustainability which included key representatives from Fleet, Facilities, Marketing, and IT. Strategies included carbon-neutral policies and practices, and reducing energy consumption, waste, and vehicle emissions. In 2010, a Code Green internal website had been created and received hundreds of suggestions from employees on how to be “green”. 2010 successes included a paper and newspaper recycling program at 2120 Cambie, reusable water bottles, and reusable laundry bags which saved 8,000 pounds of plastic per year from the landfill.

There was currently a UBC student working with the Department studying environmental sustainability and writing a report about implementing “green” initiatives across police agencies worldwide. When complete, her report would help the Department with further “green” initiatives.

The Department was also working with the City in such initiatives such as offering bicycle

repair courses to staff, transit incentives, ride-share, and raising awareness such as promoting "Earth Hour". The IT Department was also a big part of the sustainability initiative in how it procured and disposed of equipment, and such strategies as changing all printer settings to print double-sided to save paper. A battery recycling program was also being explored.

Immediate plans (by the end of 2011) included "fleet pooling", replacing the VPD fleet patrol wagons with new hybrid vehicles (which had 45% better fuel economy and would emit 98,000 kilograms less greenhouse gas emissions per year than the old wagons), and incorporating "idle stop technology" into the fleet (4 vehicles were currently being tested). The Department was also promoting meetings using teleconference and video-conference as a way to save vehicle emissions.

Future plans included researching a suitable replacement police vehicle for the traditional Ford Crown Victoria.

Questions and discussion regarding the cost, timing, and measuring value of implementing green strategies, research regarding types of police vehicles used worldwide, process around acquiring new fleet vehicles, implementation of full recycling program in all buildings, transit issues for employees working out of Graveley Street station, report by student on environmental sustainability in police organizations, and Board attempts to go "green".

6. VPD Report: Lost in Transition II

Chief Chu reported that the Department, along with Vancouver Coastal Health, had released the Lost in Transition II report written by Insp. Scott Thompson following a meeting between the VPB, VPD, and VCH core working group, earlier in the week. A draft agenda for a larger meeting between the full Boards scheduled to take place on October 17 was circulated to the Board. The core group had been working together for some time and although none of the issues were easily solved, progress continued to be made.

Question about timing and desired outcome of the larger meeting including both Boards. Note from Board member that the Vancouver Board of Trade was hosting a forum on mental health on November 16.

7. Finance Committee

7.1 2nd Quarter Variance Report

DCC Adam Palmer presented the 2nd Quarter Variance Report which had previously been examined by the Board Finance Committee. The Department was under-budget as of the end of June. The Department was experiencing some budget pressures, most notably because of the extra costs associated with Stanley Cup playoff policing and the Riot investigation, but was still cautiously optimistic it would remain within budget by the end of the year. The main offset was the higher than anticipated number of retirements. Request from the Board to receive a more current budget estimate to the end of August before the next Board meeting.

MOVED/SECONDED:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board receive the 2nd Quarter Variance Report.

CARRIED

DCC Palmer also briefly updated the Board on the 3-year capital planning strategy of the City. There were no major requests from the Department in the next 3 year plan.

8. VPD Report #1163: Reward: Ashley Machiskinic

Chief Chu briefed the Board on the report requesting a renewal of a reward which had originally been approved almost one year ago.

MOVED/SECONDED:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board approve a reward of \$10,000 for information regarding the sudden tragic death of Ashley Machiskinic. The reward to be valid for one year, as set out in Board Report #1163.

CARRIED

9. Report back from CAPB conference and AGM

Mary Collins, who attended the 2011 Canadian Association of Police Board's annual conference and AGM, reported to the Board that the conference was more substantive than had been in the previous few years. Two recurring themes at the conference were financing and the changing demographic and values (work/life balance) of incoming police members. There was an excellent presentation on employee wellness and a workshop on governance. This year's conference also included separate breakout sessions for different sized municipalities which was very helpful.

Heads up from the Department that the Board would be receiving a report in the next few months on the updated Linda Duxbury study which dealt with the ongoing shift in member demographic and values.

10. Chief Constable's Report

Chief Jim Chu reported that the Diversity Unit Department received a national award from the Minister of Justice for the Eastside Aboriginal Space for Youth program, which helped reduce youth crime in the DTES and along Commercial Drive. The Chief also gave an update on how the Department was addressing issues which came out of the riot, offer of help with equipment needs by the Vancouver Police Foundation, and bigger picture issues such as the Province declaring certain events "regional events" and the funding which would go along with that. Finally, the Chief reported on the annual joint command session which had been held the previous week with the Seattle and Portland police agencies, both of which shared very similar issues with the VPD.

11. Correspondence & information

MOVED / SECONDED:

THAT the Vancouver Police Board receive as information the following:

- 11.1 Letter from Solicitor General: Board size and Mayor as Chair
- 11.2 Compliments letters
- 11.3 Public Complaint Statistics for July 2011
- 11.4 Letter of thanks from CAPB

CARRIED

12. Public closed question period

None.

13. Board Enquiries and other business

Patti Marfleet, Chair of the Board Governance Committee, indicated that the Board members would be receiving the annual Board Effectiveness Evaluation documents within the next couple days and encouraged Board members to take the time to complete and return the documents by October 7. The voluntary Peer Evaluation would be distributed at the same time.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

APPROVED BY THE VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD ON OCTOBER 19, 2011

At its in camera meeting on September 14, 2011, the Vancouver Police Board:

1. was briefed by the Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constables on matters which they requested be presented *in camera*
2. approved requests for payment of necessary and reasonable legal costs for police officers, pursuant to section 9.9(b)(i) and (iii) of the Collective Agreement with the Vancouver Police Union
3. received updates on human resources, labour, and legal matters
4. received a legal update regarding the Missing Women Inquiry
5. received compstat report, unredacted compliments report, and Professional Standards Section report for information