

**EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2017
River Valley Room, Main Floor, City Hall
Edmonton, Alberta
12:05 P.M. – 1:40 P.M.**

PRESENT

*Chair Cathy Palmer
Vice-Chair Tim O'Brien
Commissioner Gary McCuaig
Commissioner Derek Hudson
Commissioner Jackie Foord
Commissioner Karen MacKenzie
Commissioner Laurie Hawn
Commissioner Micki Ruth
Commissioner John Lilley
Councillor Scott McKeen
Councillor Michael Oshry*

*Ms. Gabrielle Battiste, Executive Director
Ms. Karen Carlson, Communications Director
Ms. Vivianna Botticelli, Chief Internal Auditor
Mr. Zeeshan Mughal, Audit Coordinator
Ms. Chris Skaggs, Executive Assistant*

GUESTS

*Chief Rod Knecht, Edmonton Police Service
Deputy Chief Brian Simpson, Edmonton Police Service
Deputy Chief Kevin Brezinski, Edmonton Police Service
Deputy Chief Greg Preston, Edmonton Police Service
Chief Administrative Officer Brian Roberts, Edmonton Police Service
Chief Administrative Officer Linda Revell, Edmonton Police Service
Superintendent Chad Tawfik, Edmonton Police Service
Inspector Tom Pallas, Edmonton Police Service
Staff Sergeant Kelly Rosnau, Edmonton Police Service
Staff Sergeant Duane Hunter, Edmonton Police Service
Mr. Andrew LeJeune, Edmonton Police Service
Ms. Jodie Graham, Edmonton Police Service
Ms. Lesley MacAllister, Edmonton Police Service
Ms. Anna Loparco, Restorative Justice
Mr. Dorian Wandzura, Restorative Justice
Ms. Peter Windel, Restorative Justice
Ms. Maigan van der Giessen, Youth Action Project on Justice*

*Members of the Public (17)
Members of the Media (5)*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Palmer called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M. and welcomed everyone.

1.1 Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory

She opened the meeting with the following acknowledgement:

“We begin by acknowledging the traditional land on which we are gathered today which is Treaty 6 Territory. We would like to acknowledge and thank the diverse indigenous people whose ancestors footsteps have marked this territory for centuries such as: Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota Sioux, as well as Metis and Inuit. It is a welcoming place for all people who come from around the world to share Edmonton as a home. Together we call upon all of our collective honoured traditions and spirits to work in building a great city for today and future generations.”

1.2 *Chair Palmer acknowledged Chief Administrative Officer Roberts who is retiring April 21, 2017 after joining the Edmonton Police Service in 2008, in a civilian capacity, to create what has become the Office of Strategy Management Division. He has had more than 44 years in the policing industry starting with the RCMP in 1972. She thanked him for the work he has done with the Commission and on behalf of the Commission she wished him a happy and healthy retirement.*

Chair Palmer welcomed Ms. Revell who is taking over CAO Roberts' position.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED *Commissioner Hawn – Commissioner McCuaig
That the Agenda for the Commission's April 20, 2017 Public Meeting be approved.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent for the Motion: *Councillor Oshry, Councillor McKeen*

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 16, 2017

MOVED *Commissioner MacKenzie – Commissioner Hawn
That the Minutes for the Commission's March 16, 2017 regular Public Meeting be approved.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent for the Motion: *Councillor Oshry, Councillor McKeen*

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED *Commissioner Ruth – Commissioner Foord
That all Consent Agenda Items be received for information.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent for the Motion: *Councillor Oshry, Councillor McKeen*

5. **INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Muhammad Accord addressed the Commission.

6. **PRESENTATION**

6.1 **Mediation and Restorative Justice Centre (MRJC)**

Ms. Loparco, Chair, MRJC introduced MRJC Board Members Wandzura and Windel.

Ms. Loparco advised that conversation between MRJC and the Commission started in fall of 2016.

She spoke to the purpose of MRJC, which is a non-profit society, and its three program deliverables:

- *Mediation and civil disputes*
- *Restorative justice circles*
- *MRJC workshops*

(Councillor Oshry and Councillor McKeen joined the meeting)

She explained Restorative Justice which works on preserving and empowering relationships, and spoke to MRJC's potential. She advised that there is an opportunity for MRJC to support sworn officers, assist the justice system in reducing backlogs in the Courts, to reduce the reliance on law enforcement capacity and smooth the pathway for Edmonton to be a safe and inclusive community. She added that MRJC has two paid staff and receives its funding from alternative membership, Family Community Support Services, Crown funding, City of Edmonton grants, and others. The Board has a list of approximately forty volunteers from all walks of life who are trained in mediation.

Ms. Loparco and Mr. Windel responded to questions.

In response to Commissioner MacKenzie's inquiry as to how the Commission can be of assistance, Ms. Loparco advised that MRJC has run into financial difficulty, which poses a challenge, so awareness needs to be raised in the community. She suggested the Commission could make referrals for MRJC to restore its funding. She added that there needs to be a study done by MRJC to determine how it can become more self-sufficient.

Commissioner Ruth suggested this be a topic for discussion on the agenda for the Commission's upcoming Strategic Planning Session.

6.2 **Youth Action Project on Justice**

Ms. Van der Giessen spoke to the Youth Action Project (YAP) and advised that it is initiated and supported by the John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights. She is the lead facilitator for the Project.

EPC

ACTION BY

She introduced seven of the youth who are participating in the Project this year. The youth have worked with members of the Service to learn about policing and the justice system and its impact. The youth spoke on what they have learned and the actions recommended

- *Security Proposed Action(s)*
- *Freedom Proposed Action(s)*
- *Dignity Proposed Action(s)*
- *Justice Proposed Action(s)*

Ms. van der Giessen responded to questions.

MOVED *Councillor McKeen – Commissioner MacKenzie*

That Executive Director Battiste meet with representatives from the Mediation and Restorative Justice Centre and the Youth Action Project on Justice to better understand their purpose and how the Commission can be of assistance.

*Executive
Director*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. CHIEF'S REPORT

7.1 Key Issues

There were no key issues.

7.2 Table of Rewards and Reward Renewals for 2017

Deputy Chief Brezinski spoke to the report and presented the Service's recommendation.

MOVED *Commissioner Hudson – Commissioner McCuaig*

That the Edmonton Police Commission approve the Edmonton Police Service recommendation to

- *Renew rewards set to expire in 2017. All rewards to be updated annually in April of each year.*
- *Approve five (5) new reward requests*
- *Remove one (1) reward as the case has been solved.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Deputy Chief Brezinski responded to questions.

8. CHAIR REPORT

8.1 Citizen Awards Ceremony

EPC Chair Palmer reminded members of the Commission's Citizen Awards Ceremony, which acknowledges citizens who have stepped forward to assist either an officer or a citizen in time of need, and encouraged them to attend, as it is a significant event hosted by the Commission. She also advised that members are welcome to attend the Edmonton Police Service Chief's Achievement Awards and Investiture Ceremony. Both ceremonies are being held May 17, 2017 at the Expo Centre.

EPC

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

There was no report.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

10.1 **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

10.1.1 **Governance Committee Revised Terms of Reference**

Commissioner Hawn advised that the Committee reviewed its Terms of Reference and is bringing forward amendments.

Commission members provided their feedback.

Executive Director Battiste advised that the Committees are working on their legal requirements and stated that the legal requirements had been incorporated into the remaining Committee Terms of Reference for review.

MOVED Commissioner Hawn – Commissioner MacKenzie

1. *That the Commission repeal the current Governance Committee Terms of Reference and replace them with the proposed new Terms of Reference; and*
2. *The first line under “Committee Purpose” be changed to read “To approve as directed by the EPC where appropriate.....”*
3. *The first line under “Responsibilities to Commission” be changed to read “The Governance Committee is responsible to advise the Commission for all issues....”*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.1.2 **2018 Citizen Survey**

Commissioner Hawn spoke to the report and presented the Edmonton Police Service recommendation.

Mr. LeJeune advised that the Service would be administering the report in house using, in part, the City of Edmonton insight panel, through the Office of Public Engagement. He responded to questions.

EPC Chair Palmer advised that the Commission has had discussions on the possibility of taking ownership of the survey as the Calgary Police Commission does. This can be looked at for further surveys.

MOVED Commissioner Hawn – Councillor Oshry

1. *That the Commission approve the Edmonton Police Service recommendation that the 2018 and subsequent iterations of the Citizen Survey be transitioned from being administered by telephone to being administered online to gain cost efficiencies; and*

ACTION BY

2. *That the Commission's Executive Director and Communications Director participate, starting immediately, in all the meetings, discussions and work with the Service on the Citizen Survey, as part of the team.*

*Executive
Director/
Communications
Director*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2 FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Commissioner Hudson advised that the matters discussed at the April, 2017 Finance and Audit Committee meeting were included in the Consent Agenda and under the Chief's Report:

- Item #4.1 – Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance by Major Category for the Period Ending February 28, 2016*
- Item #4.2 – Edmonton Police Service Financial Results for the Period ending February 28, 2017*
- Item #7.2 – Table of Rewards and Reward Renewals for 2017.*

10.3 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Commissioner McCuaig presented the list of March, 2017 Professional Standards Branch extension requests brought forward to the Commission by the Chief of Police, together with the recommendations of the Commission's Professional Standards Committee, at the Commission's March 16, 2017 Closed Meeting, and advised that the Commission granted the extension requests as recommended by the Committee.

11. EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA

There were no exemptions from the Consent Agenda.

12. EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSIONER INQUIRIES

There were no inquiries.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

13.1 Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Update

Commissioner Ruth advised that the agenda for the CAPG Annual General Meeting being held July 15, 2017 is available on the CAPG website.

She further advised that she is sitting on the CAPG Board of Directors for a two-year period so the Commission does not have to put forward a nomination for the next term.

13.2 Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG) Update

Vice-Chair O'Brien advised that the AAPG 2017 Conference and Annual General Meeting is being held in Edmonton May 12-13, 2017.

ACTION BY

13.3 REACH Update

Commissioner Hawn advised that good work is still being done on the 24/7 Diversion Program and provided some statistics, adding that homelessness and intoxication are continuing factors.

14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Lilley acknowledged the compliment for the Service, from a victim, which appeared in the Service's March compliment report.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 P.M.

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the April 20, 2017 Public Meeting.

*Cathy Palmer, Chair
Edmonton Police Commission*

*Ms. Chris Skaggs
Secretary to the Commission*