



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
March 20, 2017**

PRESENT: Commissioner Steve Craig, Chair
Commissioner Ed MacMaster
Commissioner Jeff Mitchell
Commissioner Sylvia Parris

REGRETS: Commissioner Steve Graham, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Tony Mancini
Commissioner Wayne Mason

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police
Inspector Trudy Bangloy, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Inspector Robert Doyle, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Superintendent Colleen Kelly, Halifax Regional Police
Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police
Kathleen Patterson, Policy and Business Initiatives Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police
Martin Ward, Q.C., General Counsel, HRM Legal Services
Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Board are available online:
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bpc/170320bopc-agenda.php>*

The meeting was called to order at 12:34 p.m. and adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Steve Craig, Chair, called the meeting to order in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

The Chair noted that Commissioner Graham is unable to attend the meeting today, but is listening to the meeting via teleconference.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 23 & March 1 (work plan sessions) and February 27, 2017 (regular meeting)

MOVED by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner MacMaster

THAT the minutes of February 23 & March 1 (work plan sessions) and February 27, 2017 (regular meeting) be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Addition:

11.4 In Camera – Legal Matter - Potential Litigation – *Commissioner Craig*

MOVED by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Request for SIRT and Police Review Board Updates

The following information was before the Board:

- An extract of the December 19, 2016 minutes, item 9.2.3

This matter was before the Board as an update further to the motion approved at the December 19, 2016 meeting regarding the reporting of SIRT and Police Review Board activity to the Board at each meeting.

Chief Blais suggested that, as a part of the monthly discipline statistics that staff provide to the Board, the number and nature of cases that are before the SIRT and Police Review Board could also be provided, in a depersonalized manner for protection of privacy.

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS - NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence – NONE

7.2 Petitions – NONE

7.3 Presentations

7.3.1 Council of Parties for the Restorative Inquiry into the NS Home for Coloured Children

The following information was before the Board:

- Council of Parties Report – Winter 2016/17
- Restorative Inquiry - Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children Presentation

Tony Smith and Pam Williams presented the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children Council of Parties Report dated Winter 2016/17 to the Board of Police Commissioners. The report and presentation are both available on file and online.

Following the presentation, the Board discussed with Mr. Smith and Ms. Williams the work of the restorative inquiry.

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, referencing page 12 of the report, indicated that HRM could contribute toward African Nova Scotian Youth seeing their culture better reflected in their environments and having role models by, for example, providing opportunities for leadership roles, and assistance with resume writing and building. He committed to holding further conversations to implement some of these practical goals.

The Chair encouraged the Council of Parties, through Mr. Smith and Ms. Williams to reach out to the Board if there is any way the Board may be of assistance in the process.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 HRM Police Diversity Advisory Committee – *Constable Amit Parasram*

The following information was before the Board:

- Staff report dated March 14, 2017
- Staff presentation dated March 20, 2017
- Breaking Barriers to Excellence document
- A Principled Response for Action document
- Excellence Through Diversity – A Report on the Education and Training Needs in Diversity of the Halifax Regional Police

Chief Blais introduced Constable Amit Parasram, Halifax Regional Police. Constable Parasram, presented the March 14, 2017 staff report. The report and presentation are available on file and online.

Constable Parasram and Chief Blais responded to questions from the Board. Chief Blais noted that additional background documentation was provided to the Board via email this morning, and in hard copy at the meeting.

The Chair suggested that this matter could be deferred to give members time to review the materials that were circulated

MOVED by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner MacMaster

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners defer this matter to the next meeting, pending further review.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

9.2.1 Inclusion of Public Participation on BOPC agendas – Commissioner Craig

MOVED by Commissioner MacMaster, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Mitchell

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report exploring the possibility of including a Public Participation section on the monthly Board of Police Commissioners agendas.

The Chair noted that this was something that was brought up at the work plan sessions. He indicated that the report should examine whether this is the right forum for public participation, and what boundaries would be required to make it effective.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2.2 Criminal Record Checks

9.2.2 (i) Update – Criminal Record Check Refunds

MOVED by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report outlining the budget implications and plan for conducting refunds for criminal record checks for employment purposes involving finger printing.

The Chair indicated that this matter arose from the criminal record check discussion at the last meeting. He indicated that the report should include information on whether HRP has the authority to conduct refunds.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2.2 (ii) Eliminating Costs for Criminal Record Checks

MOVED by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner MacMaster

That the Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report identifying and quantifying the recommended 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 HRP budget impacts of eliminating fees charged to individuals associated with Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check applications for volunteer purposes.

The Chair advised that this matter is further to an information report received at the last meeting. He would like further information on specifically what the financial impact would be if fees for criminal record checks were eliminated for volunteer purposes.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2.3 Work Plan Discussion

MOVED by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner MacMaster

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners authorize the assistance of former Commissioners Fred Honsberger and Michael Moreash to integrate the Board of Police

Commissioners 2017 workshop priorities with the work plan approved by the Board on July 14, 2014.

At the suggestion of Commissioner Mitchell, the Board accepted a friendly amendment to the motion:

That the Board of Police Commissioners authorize the assistance of former Commissioners Fred Honsberger and Michael Moreash to integrate the Board of Police Commissioners 2017 workshop priorities with the work plan approved by the Board on July 14, 2014, and bring the integrated plan back to the Board for approval.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

9.3.1 Management Employee Relations Committee Update – Ed MacMaster

Commissioner MacMaster provided a verbal update as the Board of Police Commissioners representative appointed to the Management Employee Relations Committee, advising that he has attended two meetings. Commissioner MacMaster advised that topics of discussion included:

- Storage and deployment of long guns
- Appearance and safe wear of HRP issued gear ie.: toques, vests.
- HRP Budget
- Training
- Assaults on officers

Chief Blais commented on the importance of the Management Employee Relations Committee meetings, and noted that Deputy Chief Blais attends the meetings also.

Continuing with Commissioner updates, the Chair indicated that further to continued discussions regarding the Drug Exhibit Audit Update, he has asked for the audit to be completed within 18 months.

The Chair further advised that he has initiated a meeting with the Nova Scotia Minister of Justice Diana Whalen later in March to discuss among other topics the Drug Exhibit Audit, police resources required, and to facilitate an ongoing working relationship with the Department of Justice.

9.4 HRP/RCMP Chief Updates

Chief Blais circulated to the Board a document entitled “Estimated Timeline – Follow-up from Drug Exhibit Audit”. He reviewed the document with the Board, indicating that this is the latest update as of March 20, 2017, which has also been approved by Chief Superintendent Bergerman, RCMP.

10. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

11. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

11.1 Approval of Minutes – February 27, 2017 - In Camera

MOVED by Commissioner MacMaster, seconded by Commissioner Parris

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the February 27, 2017 In Camera meeting minutes.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Commissioner MacMaster, seconded by Commissioner Parris

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene to an In Camera session.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The meeting recessed at 1:48 p.m. to move to an In Camera session.

The public session resumed at 2:31 p.m.

11.2 Personnel Matter – Complaint filed on behalf of HRP Officer
A matter pertaining to an identifiable individual or group.

This matter was discussed In Camera.

The following motion was ratified during the public session.

MOVED by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner MacMaster

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request the Chair to respond via letter to the Complainant, as per the March 20, 2017 In Camera discussion.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.3 Operational Matter - Security of Police Operations
A matter pertaining to HRP operational matters involving security.

This matter was discussed In Camera. No action required.

11.4 Legal Matter – Potential Litigation
A matter pertaining to litigation or potential litigation in regard to an identifiable person and information whose disclosure could reasonably be expected to prejudice the interests of the Municipality.

This matter was discussed In Camera. No action required.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 24, 2017

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle
Legislative Assistant