

**Regular Board Meeting
Police Accountability Board
February 1, 2024 at 6:30 PM**

245 E. Main Street, Rochester, NY

Livestreamed on Facebook (facebook.com/rocpab) & YouTube
(youtube.com/rochesterpab) & Twitter

Attendees

Board Members: Lawrence Knox (Chair), Arlene Brown (Vice Chair), Daniel Cadet, Rabbi Drorah Setel, Rev. Keith Patterson, Yvonne Wilson, Mary E. Wambach

Absent/Excused: William Clark

Staff: Sherry Walker-Cowart, Interim Executive Director, Victoria Harmon, PAB Secretary, Rosabel Antonetti, Director of Operations, Delores Paige, Director of Case Management, Elizabeth Beltran, Director of Investigations, De'Jon Hall, Director of Policy and Oversight, Natalie Banks, Director of Public Affairs & Community Engagement

ASL Interpreters: Heather Feinman and Shannon Tracy

Item	Details	Vote	Time
Start of Meeting	<p><u>Welcome & Introductions:</u> Chair Knox called the meeting to order and requested self-introductions. Board members and Interim Executive Director introduced themselves.</p>		6:33 PM
Approval of Prior Minutes	<p><u>Minutes:</u> January 4, 2023. Motion to approve the minutes with the correction made by A. Brown, with a second by K. Patterson. Motion carried.</p>	Unanimous	6:34 PM
Staff Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide information and foster an accurate and authentic narrative of the PAB, the following meetings and presentations were conducted for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department of Recreation and Human Services leadership team under Commissioner Dr. Shirley Green. ○ Mayor Evans senior management team, consisting of over 20 individuals. ○ Meeting with the President and CEO of the Rochester Area Community Foundation, Simeon Banister and his Chief of Staff, Iris Bieri. ○ During the meeting with Mr. Banister, there were discussions of developing the 		6:35 PM

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	<p>PAB’s own media narrative and exploring relevant programs for youth similar to what the police and youth have in Minnesota.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Interim Executive Director and other staff members were present for a listening session at the Telesca Center for Justice hosted by The Justice Infrastructure project sponsored by Interest On Lawyers Account) (IOLA). • The session gathered information on civil, legal and other matters regarding community needs. The staff were there to share information about the PAB as well. <p><u>Operations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparations are being made for the upcoming 2024-2025 budget season. Budgets are due by February 16, 2024. • The operations teams has been working closely with the board and the executive search firm for an Executive Director. <p><u>Case Management:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were fourteen cases opened for the month of January. • A Bilingual Case Manager position has been posted, and applications are being accepted until February 21st. <p><u>Policy and Oversight:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first draft proposal for change on the protest policy has been launched. • Once the draft is published, a 30-day period of public input will be conducted. • A virtual public input session was already held, and three mores sessions will be hosted on 		
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	<p>February 8th, 15th and 22nd at the PAB’s headquarters. Bus passes and light refreshment will be provided for attendees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first oversight investigation, which deals with Rochester Police Department’s use of force on juveniles, will be reviewed to be voted on and closed tonight (02/01/2023). The investigation thoroughly examined the power executed by the Rochester Police Department and addresses specific subjects and questions. • The oversight investigation does not offer recommendations, but may lead to a proposal for change. • William Cleveland and other staff members who worked on the report were recognized and appreciated. • The Policy and Oversight team will continue to conduct research on other policy areas approved by the board. <p><u>Public Affairs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Affairs and Community Engagement team is working on organizing protest policy information sessions. Flyers will be distributed to provide necessary information. • The unit is also working on public awareness campaigns, utilizing radio ads, billboards, and bus advertisements. • An offer has been made to a candidate for Community Engagement Specialist position. <p><u>Investigations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two investigation positions are in the process of being filled. • There are ongoing discussions on posting closed case reports on the PAB’s website in accordance with the charter’s requirement (Section 18111 A). • Statements from RPD officers is required to complete investigations. No statements have been 		
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<p>Chair's Report</p>	<p>received. The next step will be issue subpoenas to obtain the required statement and complete investigations.</p> <p><u>Chair's Report:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The East District board seat has still not being filled. The Chair emphasized the importance of having representation from every part of the city and urged residents of the East District to apply for the open board seat. • The budget submission due date is in February 16th. The Chair emphasized the need for more funding for the PAB in the upcoming budget, highlighting the need for additional positions and resources to support the agency's work. • There were discussions about having conversations with Council members to help them understand the complexity and importance of the investigators' role. Extensive amount of body camera footage needs to reviewed and the investigators cannot rush through the process and need sufficient time and resources to their jobs effectively. • The RFP for a new executive director search firm has been passed by the council, and a firm has been hired for the search. The interim Executive Director will assist with the hiring process. The selected firm will engage with the community and gather input on the desired qualities and skill for the new executive director. 		<p>6:44 PM</p>
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p><u>Committee Reports:</u></p> <p><u>Training Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been successful trainings conducted over the couple of weeks. More training will be conducted once 		<p>6:59 PM</p>

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	<p>the new Professional Development and Training Manager is hired.</p> <p><u>Search Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP for a new executive director search firm discussed in Chair’s report. 		
<p>Old Business</p>	<p><u>Old Business:</u> No report</p>		<p>7:00 PM</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p><u>New Business:</u> The Juvenile Use of Force Oversight investigation was presented to the board for review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report will be published at the end of February after additional translation and grammatical corrections. • There was some discussion about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instances of how RPD has handled Juveniles. ○ The barriers in accessing information and body-worn camera for investigation. ○ Having a collaborative public input process and bridging the gap between the police, the PAB and the community. ○ Keeping juveniles accountable. • A motion to accept the Juvenile Use of Force Oversight investigation as-is was made by D. Setel, with a second by D. Cadet. Motion carried. • The board recalled a memory of Dr. Robert Harrison, for whom the discussed issue was of great importance. 	<p>Unanimous</p>	<p>7:01 PM</p> <p>7:37 PM</p>
<p>Executive Session</p>	<p>ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion made by L. Knox with a second by D. Setel to adjourn to executive session.</p>		<p>7:38 PM</p>

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	<p>During the executive session, the board held one vote on a legal matter regarding subpoenas that was passed. The vote on the matter was 5-0. There were no other votes taken at the executive session.</p> <p>End of meeting</p> <p>NEXT BOARD MEETING: March 7, 2024</p>		
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