

**Regular Board Meeting
Police Accountability Board
June 15, 2023 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), Daniel Cadet, William Clark, Rabbi Drorah Setel, Mary E. Wambach

Absent/Excused: Arlene Brown (Vice Chair), Rev. Keith Patterson

Staff: Sherry Walker-Cowart, Victoria Harmon

ASL Interpreters: Kel Mullaney, Anna Walton, Lisa Zalar

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 self-introduced. S. Walker-Cowart introduced Victoria Harmon, the new PAB Board Secretary.</p>		6:47PM
Approval of Prior Minutes	<p><u>Minutes:</u> June 1, 2023. Motion to approve the minutes made by W. Clark, with a second by D. Cadet Motion carried.</p>	Unanimous	6:48PM
Staff Report	<p><u>Public Affairs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PAB new website will launch before the end of the month of June and promotional activities will be scheduled around the launch. • The PAB will be present at the Juneteenth event this weekend and at the upcoming Rock the Block Community fair as well. • New billboards will go up this month targeting the Latinx community. <p><u>Operations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews for the Director of Case Management position are currently in progress and will conclude soon. • Once the budget is passed, we will conduct additional interviews and fill more positions. • All City mandated training has been conducted. • The City's department of real estate has reached out to discuss future office space for the PAB. 		6:49PM

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Chair's Report	<p><u>Investigations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior attorney positions are being interviewed for and some promising candidates have been identified. • The announcement for the Director of Investigation position closed June 16, 2023. • A productive meeting was held with Captain Swetman and Sergeant Gallagher from the Rochester Police Department, along with the PAB digital forensic analysts. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and clarify the processes involved in this journey and issues with accessing information that the PAB needs to do the work that is expected of them. Moving forward, we will hold these meetings periodically. • Regarding investigations and our progress, we have received 347 complaints as of today. We have closed 69 cases and have 61 still pending. • Some of the pending cases are awaiting review from the administrator or the panel. We are working on moving these cases through the process, and we hope to see a decrease in the number of pending cases as we hire more staff. <p><u>Policy and Oversight:</u></p> <p>The Data Transparency Proposal and Recommendations was sent to the Mayor, Police Chief and City Council representatives. We are looking forward to receiving feedback from the Police Chief on the document.</p> <p><u>Chair's Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair appreciated supporters being present at City Hall tonight for a public hearing on the budget. • The Chair urged agency supporters to express their support for the PAB's work by reaching out to their council members. • The Chair is hopeful that the PAB will get access to the same funding as in the previous year. This is 		6:52PM
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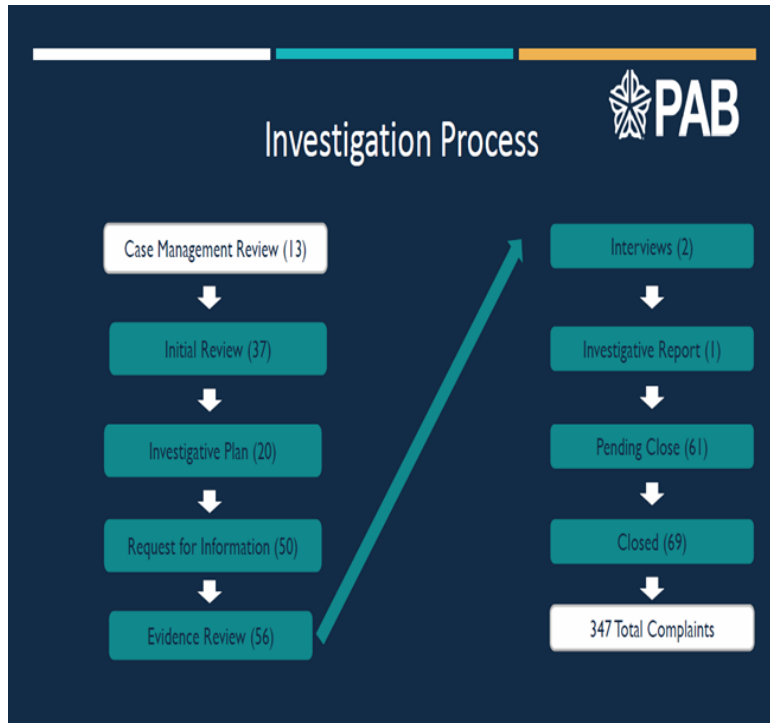
	<p>given the progress made and how far the PAB has come since the agency began.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PAB Chair, and the Interim PAB Executive Director had a productive meeting with the Chief of Police, David M. Smith, the City Council President, Miguel A. Meléndez, Jr, representatives from the City Legal department, and IT. Issues discussed surrounded direct access to RPD data and other matters related to the agency and the board. The aim of the meeting was to establish clarity and trust between the board's work, the staff's work, and the City government of which the PAB is part. The Chair stated that effective communication is crucial in ensuring transparency in their relationship, and they are working towards the same objective. Effective communication is vital to achieving this goal.• In addition, the Chair mentioned that the new website would provide clarity regarding the PAB's work.• Attendees were briefed on a Court of Appeals date for conducting disciplinary hearings. It was mentioned that there isn't a set court date and that more cases have progressed along further since the newly appointed chief judge took over. <p><u>Committee Reports:</u></p> <p>Training Committee: The staff completed a lot of training in the past month. Kudos to Angela Tucker, at the office of Training and Safety. She asked Board members for specific training topics that would best serve the PAB Board.</p> <p>The board has requested clarification on the difference between board training and agency staff training.</p> <p>President Melendez is working on obtaining more clarification. Going forward, the board will discuss their ideas for what the training should entail. This will ensure everyone is on the same page. The goal is to have clarity and access to training as new members join.</p>		
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	<p><u>Search Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We aim to finalize the executive director's job description tonight and send packets to prospective search agencies as soon as possible. Otherwise, it will be finalized after further review by the City's Human Resource Department. • There is a budget allocation for a search firm. 		
<p>Old Business</p>	<p><u>Old Business:</u> The panel reviewed and closed four cases and one case was returned to investigations for more information from the reporter. The board will set a date for reviewing more cases.</p>		<p>7:02PM</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p><u>New Business:</u> The language access training conducted for the Board on June 8th, was excellent. Suggestions were made to incorporate stakeholder engagement into the promotion of the PAB and for the PAB to advocate for the need for more police officers in Rochester. The Board, while acknowledging that there are ongoing conversations about involving stakeholder engagement into the promotion of the PAB, discussed the need to have direct access to data to make informed decisions regarding the need for more police officers and the importance of not getting ahead of the policy team. It was suggested to bring up these issues to the policy team.</p>		<p>7:04PM</p>
<p>Executive Session</p>	<p>ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion made by D. Setel with a second by D. Cadet to adjourn to executive session.</p> <p>End of meeting.</p>	<p>Unanimous</p>	<p>7:08PM</p>

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Investigation Case Status Chart.



NEXT BOARD MEETING: JULY 6

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