



Seattle City Council Police Accountability Panel (SCCPAP)
Minutes of Monday, November 26, 2007 Meeting
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Present: Panelists Steve Herbert, W. Ed Reed, Eric Schnapper, Lynne Wilson; Michael Pendleton, facilitator; Nancy Roberts, staff

Absent: Kellye Testy, Veronica Alicea-Galvan, Leo Hamaji

Guests: Jeff Slayton and Paul Olson, Law Department; David Bracilano and Mike Fields, Labor Relations (Personnel); Kathryn Olson, OPA

Administrative:

Meeting was convened at 6:06 pm

Approval of Agenda and Minutes – The minutes for the 11/12/07 meeting were approved. There was mention of the letter from the Seattle Human Rights Commission, contained in the panel notebooks, but discussion on this issue was deferred to a later date.

Open Public Meetings Act – Jeff Slayton briefed the panel on the Act. Much of this conversation took place in executive session. It was decided that the Panel would conduct themselves as if they were subject to the OPMA, and will strive to incorporate the tenets & spirit of the OPMA. There may be times that requirements are impractical to implement.

Public Records – The panel was briefed on the Public Records Act (PRA). Everything relating to the work of this panel, even that contained on a personal PC, is subject to the PRA. It was suggested that separate folders be created and all information maintained within those folders. Nancy will get further clarification about records retention for the group.

Labor Relations and Labor Contracts – David Bracilano gave the panel an overview of the general procedures for negotiating police union contracts, which is governed by RCW 41.56. They cannot strike, agreeing to binding arbitration and mediation instead. It is a centralized process, with the goal of achieving consensus. The Labor Relations Policy Committee (LRPC) is used to coalesce various groups. Negotiations for the contract that expired on 12/31/06 began in May of '06 and continues. The PERC (Public Employment Relation's Committee) has been involved since October of '06. Only PERC can determine what issues are bargainable.

Office of Professional Accountability – Kathryn Olson, OPA Director, presented a slide show that helped to explain the cumbersome system of police oversight. There was discussion around classification of cases, the 180 day rule. A copy of her presentation is attached.

Next Meeting Agenda Building - The group would like to hear from Kate Pflaumer, the OPA Auditor, and from OPARB members. They will be invited to the next meeting, to be held on December 10 from 6 – 9 in the Sam Smith Room, City Hall, 2nd floor reception area. Michael issued a reading assignment – please read the OPARB's 2004 report, and OPARB's most recent report, issued in July 2007, prior to the next meeting. The notebooks also contain several reports issued by the OPA Auditor.

Tasks: Nancy to burn a CD of the Mayor's Panel meeting of 8/20/07, which is also available online: <http://www.seattlechannel.org/videos/video.asp?ID=5010741> Included in that meeting are presentations by the Chief, former OPA Director Sam Pailca, the OPA Auditor, and OPARB.



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The facilitator will find out what the format and agenda of the Mayor's December 17 panel meeting will be. Perhaps this Panel can meet on that date as well, prior to the holiday break.

Nancy will contact members prior to each meeting to see if they are interested in having her purchase box lunches/pizza/food for these dinner-time meetings. Expenses will need to be reimbursed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, December 10 at 6:00 pm in the Sam Smith Conference Room.
Minutes recorded by: Nancy Roberts