

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD

September 11, 2019

A meeting of the Marquette University Police Department (MUPD) Advisory Board was called to order in Eckstein Hall (Law School), Room 432, 1215 W. Michigan St. in Milwaukee, WI on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. Due and timely notice of the meeting, an agenda and draft minutes from the previous meeting were provided by email to each member of the Board in advance of the meeting. Notice of the meeting was also posted on the MUPD Advisory Board website. The meeting was open to the public.

Roll Call. Board members present in person at the meeting were Michael O’Hear, Chair of the Board and Professor, Marquette University Law School; Dr. Meghan Stroshine, Associate Professor in Social & Cultural Sciences, Klingler College of Arts and Sciences; Keith Stanley, Executive Director of Avenues West and Near West Side Partners; Jenna Goeb, Prospect Research Analyst, University Advancement; and Sara Manjee, President of Marquette University Student Government (MUSG). Non-Board Members present at the meeting included Edith Hudson, MUPD Chief; Jeff Kranz, Assistant MUPD Chief; Jill Weisensel, MUPD Lieutenant; and Jeff KipfmueLLer, Senior Associate General Counsel (as legal counsel to the Board).

Consideration of Minutes of the May 3, 2019 Meeting. The minutes for the May 3, 2019 Board Meeting were unanimously approved by the Board Members with no changes (motion made by Dr. Stroshine, seconded by Ms. Manjee).

Introduction of New Member. Ms. Goeb was introduced as the newest member of the Board.

Election of the Vice Chair. Dr. Stroshine was nominated as the Vice Chair of the Board and her nomination was unanimously approved.

Update on Departmental Activities and Initiatives. The following updates were provided by MUPD personnel:

1. Changes in MUPD structure/promotion/staffing: Chief Hudson indicated that, as of 9/1/19, MUPD has been reorganized into 2 areas (operations and support services). This should enable provision of better service and streamlining. With the recent retirement of Mark Cleveland, Campus Safety, Michael Wichgers has been promoted to Sergeant in that role. Also, Tom Wichgers has been named the new Community Liaison Officer.
2. Scooters: A policy was discussed and adopted before this semester started, banning scooters from Marquette property. To date, we are aware of one student who was injured off-campus while riding a scooter. Also, one staff member was run into by a scooter driver, with no significant injury.
3. Building Assessments: MUPD staff is in the process of performing vulnerability assessments on all Marquette buildings. Recommendations will be forthcoming once completed.
4. Homeless Encampment: The land where “Tent City” is located, under the freeway, is Wisconsin DOT property, which is managed by Milwaukee County. County Supervisor Abele has announced a plan to find housing for all of the people in the encampment. Chief Hudson will update us at the next Board meeting regarding progress. Marquette has been involved in many discussions in this regard.

5. 2020 Democratic National Convention: Asst. Chief Kranz visited Cleveland State University, which hosted the previous Republican National Convention. That campus was similarly situated. To date, nothing has been finalized, in terms of security perimeters, boundaries and restricted areas surrounding the convention site.
6. Pedestrian Safety Pilot Project: Chief Hudson first wants to engage students to determine if they would be supportive of a pedestrian safety initiative before initiating the pilot. One possibility is to place trained students in the highest areas of safety concerns; those students would have a stop sign and assist with traffic control. The intersection at 15th and Wells was cited as an example of a busy intersection which might benefit from this project.
7. MUPD Vacancies: we currently have openings for three police officers, one public safety officer, and two Safety Security (SSO) vacancies.
8. Community Engagement and Technology: Lt. Weisensel provided various updates in these areas. To date, 2,830 people have downloaded the Eagle Eye App. This app offers anonymous reporting, GPS reporting, Mobile Blue Light functionality, crime statistics, etc.
9. Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy: MUPD ran this academy on campus this past summer in conjunction with the FBI's Milwaukee office. This is a week-long camp in which 30 high school students are exposed to all kinds of policing by various law enforcement agencies. The camp incorporates leadership training, in addition to enforcing laws. 12 agencies were involved in the most recent camp, and this is the only camp of its kind in the country. This year, we had more than 130 applicants for 30 spots (15 males, 15 females). Seven of the students were non-white. The camp is marketed statewide and admission is based upon character.
10. MUPD Canine Nattie: Chief Hudson told us that MUPD is going to start a "Nattie Safety Series" on a variety of topics. Scheduled to start in October.
11. Crime statistics: Chief Hudson provided us an overview of crime statistics from 2017, 2018 and 2019, from January 1 to July 31 of each year. For person crimes, in our patrol zone, including non-Marquette victims, during that time period, there has been a steady decrease: 37 crimes in '17, 42 in '18, 31 in '19. Chief Hudson believes that weather may have impacted these numbers, as well as the proactive policing of MUPD. Property crimes (burglary and theft) in that time period have slightly increased: 178 crimes in '17; 188 crimes in '18; and 192 crimes in '19. Part of this increase is being seen in the 7/11, Sendik's and Walgreens stores, which are experiencing retail theft. MUPD has worked with all three of these merchants to help reduce retail theft. For examples, 7/11 has changed the layout of its entire store, based in part on MUPD recommendations. The stores have been cooperative, for the most part, with MUPD. The Chair asked about thefts of cell phones and we were informed that there have been five such thefts this year (a decrease).
12. Mr. Stanley asked about proactive education for new businesses (e.g., a new tea shop which is opening) and Chief Hudson indicated that MUPD is happy to provide training to the new store.
13. A discussion occurred about education for students interacting with homeless people on campus. Chief Hudson indicated there is programming that comes out of Mission and Ministry and the Center for Peacemaking. In addition, Dan Bergen, Director of the Office of Community Engagement, is tracking how Marquette is making additional efforts to assist homeless individuals; a report will be published soon on this topic.

Public Comments. There was a comment made by an attendee from the Center of Peacemaking about feeling racially profiled by MUPD. Chief Hudson responded by saying that if anyone has a concern, he/she can email, call, come to MUPD, talk with a supervisor on duty, or talk with the Chief or Assistant Chief. Chief Hudson asked that all such incidents be brought to MUPD's attention. Other comments included a suggestion about an alternate response (i.e., not police) in a situation involving a person of color or a person with a mental health issue. Another comment mentioned that MUPD was asking students to present their MU ID cards, and some discussion ensued. There was a suggestion for a community forum and Chief Hudson indicated that she'd love to attend a forum to talk about issues involving MUPD.

Other Business. There was no further business.

Selection of Next Meeting Date. The next Board Meeting will be November 20, 2019 at 3:30 p.m. in Eckstein Hall, Room 432.

Adjournment. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 4:31 p.m. (motion by Ms. Goeb, seconded by Dr. Stroshine). Motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey M. Kipfmüller
Associate General Counsel