

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES**

May 11, 2009

PRESENT:

Commissioner Russell Walker, Chair
Commissioner Gloria McCluskey, Vice Chair
Commissioner Bill Karsten
Commissioner James Perrin
Commissioner Doug MacDonald
Commissioner Earl Gosse
Commissioner Kenneth Hill

STAFF:

Deputy Chief Tony Burbridge, Halifax Regional Police
Deputy Chief Chris McNeil, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Don Spicer, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Darrell Beaton, RCMP
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	3
	PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT BADGE - Commissioner Beverley Peters	3
	SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER - Commissioner Earl Gosse	3
2.	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES	3
3.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	3
4.	BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES	3
5.	CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS	3
6.	CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS	3
	6.1. Correspondence	3
	6.1.1 Stepping Stone Re: Boundary Restrictions	3
	6.1.2 Dartmouth Sportsplex Re: Letter of Appreciation	4
	6.2 Petitions	4
	6.3 Presentations	4
	6.3.1 Halifax District RCMP Annual Performance Plan - Inspector Joanne Crampton	4
	6.3.2 Mental Health Protocol - Superintendent Bill Moore	5
7.	REPORTS	6
	7.1 RCMP Reports	6
	7.2 HRP Reports	6
8.	ADDED ITEMS	6
	8.1 Auburn Drive School - Commissioner McCluskey	6
	8.2 Mayor's Task Force	6
9.	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	7
10.	ADJOURNMENT	7

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. in the Meisner Room, Halifax Regional Police Headquarters, 1975 Gottingen Street.

PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT BADGE - Commissioner Beverley Peters

The Chair and Superintendent Beaton presented Ms. Peters with her retirement badge.

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER - Commissioner Earl Gosse

Mr. Earl Gosse was sworn in by Ms. Roxanne MacLaurin, Senior Solicitor, as a new member of the Board.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - March 9 & April 6, 2009

MOVED BY Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner Perrin, that the minutes of March 9 & April 6, 2009, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 7.2 HRP Reports - Additional Training Report
- 8.1 Auburn Drive School - Commissioner McCluskey
- 8.2 Mayor's Task Force on Violence - Superintendent Don Spicer

MOVED BY Commissioner Karsten, seconded by Commissioner MacDonald, that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1. Correspondence

6.1.1 Stepping Stone Re: Boundary Restrictions

- C A letter dated March 18, 2009 from Ms. Rene Ross, Executive Director, Stepping Stone, was before the Board.

Deputy Chief Burbridge advised that Chief Beazley and Mayor Kelly had drafted a letter to Stepping Stone directing them to the Honourable Robert Nicholson, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, as the issue was a federal matter. Deputy Chief Burbridge stated that without the conditions Ms. Ross referred to her in letter police would not be able to manage neighbourhood problems.

MOVED BY Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner Karsten, that the letter from Ms. Rene Ross, Executive Director, Stepping Stone, dated March 18, 2009, be received and filed. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6.1.2 Dartmouth Sportsplex Re: Letter of Appreciation

- C A letter dated April 15, 2009 from Mr. Brad Smith, Chair of the Dartmouth Sportsplex Community Association, was before the Board.

Correspondence from the Dartmouth Sportsplex was received as information.

6.2 Petitions - None

6.3 Presentations

6.3.1 Halifax District RCMP Annual Performance Plan - Inspector Joanne Crampton

- C A Power Point presentation was submitted.

Inspector Joanne Crampton, RCMP, provided the presentation on the Halifax District RCMP Annual Performance Plan (APP). Highlights were as follows:

- C The APP was for special projects or areas identified in the community over and above day to day RCMP business;
- C Community consultation was one of the largest parts of the APP;
- C Last year there was one large APP for all of HRM which has been broken down into communities this year;
- C The North Central area refers to Middle Musquodoboit;
- C There will be satellite communication via streaming video between the three core sites;
- C Traffic enforcement also included intelligence gathering via check stops and being more visible in the community rather than just giving tickets.

A discussion ensued with Inspector Crampton responding to questions. She indicated that APP updates were done quarterly on a fiscal year basis, therefore, the Board would be receiving their next update in September 2009.

Commissioner Gosse asked if the APP had other performance measures in addition to statistics. Inspector Crampton advised that there was a set of measurable targets for each objective which she could produce for the Board and would include in future updates.

The Chair thanked Inspector Crampton for her presentation.

Superintendent Beaton advised that the RCMP was looking to the Board for sanction and sign off on the APP and the Board agreed.

6.3.2 Mental Health Protocol - Superintendent Bill Moore

Superintendent Bill Moore, Halifax Regional Police, provided the presentation on Mental Health Protocol. Highlights were as follows:

- C The mental health mobile crisis team and 24 hour phone line was available to all residents of HRM;
- C Staff were receiving approximately 600 referrals a month with the vast majority being done by phone;
- C There were two teams made up of a police officer and a medical mental health specialist available to be called in for assistance and to conduct proactive checks;
- C The team would have access to mental health history and could visit a resident prior to criminal issues arising;
- C There was currently 40 hours of in depth mental health training available for patrol officers;
- C HRP was trying for a basic competency for mental illness using an online training program called Canadian Police Knowledge Network (CPKN);
- C The training was \$50.00 plus tax for the two hour online course, however, it was offered for free as a new release;
- C HRP currently had approximately 900 people trained;
- C It could be arranged for Board members to take the CPKN training;
- C Capital District Health had requested money on the medical side to fund a position to go to health districts across Nova Scotia to help each area set up their mental health models;
- C Mental Health Court would likely be commencing in the fall;
- C There will now be a mental health component to use of force training.

A discussion ensued with Superintendent Moore responding to questions. He advised that autism was considered part of the mental health group and that HRP had a good

relationship with the Nova Scotia Autism Society. Superintendent Moore also advised that autism was included in the CPKN online training program.

Regarding mental health assessment in schools; it was noted that each school had their own psychologist and the police was generally only contacted when violence was feared. HRP would certainly invite more integration.

The Chair thanked Superintendent Moore for his presentation.

7. REPORTS

7.1 RCMP Reports

C Copies of the April 2009 RCMP reports were before the Commission.

Superintendent Beaton noted that Inspector Crampton had made reference in her presentation to crime stats levelling off, however, he advised that it was too early to say if this was a trend.

7.2 HRP Reports

C Copies of the April 2009 HRP reports were before the Commission.

Deputy Chief Burbridge noted that HRP numbers were continuing to trend down as well.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Auburn Drive School - Commissioner McCluskey

Commissioner McCluskey advised that she had heard another incident would be taking place on Wednesday, May 13, 2009, at Auburn Drive School.

Deputy Chief Burbridge advised that he would follow up and indicated that there was a task force working on the situation.

8.2 Mayor's Task Force on Violence

C The Public Safety Officer Journal for April 2009 was submitted.

Superintendent Don Spicer provided an update on the Mayor's Task Force. Highlights were as follows:

- C A report regarding taxi and limousine issues including safe pick up sites for taxi stands would be going to the Board and then Regional Council;
- C Staff was looking to revamp the HRM Diversity Team;
- C Staff was looking for a better coordinated volunteer service for HRM;
- C Mr. Mike Labrecque, Director of Transportation and Public Works, was meeting with representatives from Dalhousie and St. Mary's Universities and would be writing a report regarding late night transit service;
- C Staff were looking at student walking corridors through Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

A discussion ensued with Superintendent Spicer responding to questions. He advised that he had met with the Director of Crime Prevention for the Province and indicated that Safer, Stronger Communities would be the focal point for their levels of government.

The Chair thanked Superintendent Spicer for his update.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2009.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant

The following items were added as information:

1. APB - Volume 13 Issue 4
2. Directory of Canadian Police Boards/Commissions - April 2009