

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES**

February 8, 2010

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

REGRETS: Commissioner Kenneth Hill

STAFF: Chief Frank Beazley, Halifax Regional Police
Deputy Chief Tony Burbridge, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Don Spicer, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Darrell Beaton, RCMP
Mr. Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. in the Meisner Room, Police Headquarters.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - January 18, 2010

MOVED BY Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner Perrin, that the minutes of January 18, 2010 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

The Chair requested that an item titled Secretariate be added to the March agenda.

Additions:

- 8.1 Drinking on the Halifax Commons - Commissioner Karsten
- 8.2 Third Quarter Update for Annual Performance Plan - Superintendent Beaton

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

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 Taxi Roof Light Issue

The Chair thanked Deputy Chief Burbridge for getting back to the Board so quickly once this issue was brought up at the January 18, 2010 meeting; noting that this matter had been resolved by 5:00 p.m. that same day.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Correspondence - None

6.2 Petitions - None

6.3 Presentations - None

7. REPORTS

7.1 RCMP Reports

- The January 2010 RCMP reports and fourth quarterly statistics were before the Board.

Superintendent Beaton advised that staff was seeing a considerable increase in common assaults, breaking and entering and theft under \$5,000; noting that after seeing these fourth quarterly statistics he had requested a better breakdown for further information. He stated that Assault One, which was the lowest level of assault, counted for 60% of assaults in his jurisdiction in the last quarter of 2009 and the next highest category was assault with a weapon. Superintendent Beaton indicated that sexual assaults accounted for 11% of crime. He advised that residential breaking and entering accounted for 50% of crime; noting that it had been a concern over the past year. He stated that theft under \$5,000 drove the property crime statistics and if they did not have that category there would be better statistics.

Commissioner MacDonald entered the meeting at 12:41 p.m.

The Chair requested an update on how many members would be working at the Vancouver Olympics.

Superintendent Beaton indicated that 23 RCMP members would be attending.

Chief Beazley advised that 18 HRP members would be attending and that he, Superintendent Beaton and the Province had agreed to support each other, via an memorandum of understanding, if extra officers were required in HRM during that time. He stated that officers would be brought in on overtime if the shift amount fell below 60%. Chief Beazley also indicated that they were receiving money from the Federal Government to ensure that policing on the street did not suffer.

Superintendent Beaton advised that the RCMP had created a leave moratorium for this period and that he had no concerns regarding service delivery.

The RCMP reports were tabled as submitted.

7.2 HRP Reports

- The January 2010 HRP reports and fourth quarterly statistics were before the Board.

Chief Beazley indicated that, according to the fourth quarterly statistics, there was a 1% change in crime for the year, therefore, the crime rate was flat. He did, however, advise that there had been a slight increase in violent crime.

Commissioner Gosse entered the meeting at 12:47 p.m.

Chief Beazley advised that the crime rate had been going down for the past four years and had now plateaued. He stated that theft under \$5,000 was up region wide and that the HRP and RCMP had been issuing joint press releases to inform the public of this fact.

Superintendent Beaton stated that the RCMP and HRP were going to continue their Christmas media delivery as a lot of prevention could be done through education.

Chief Beazley stated that a good news story in the statistics was that car accident fatalities were down and Provincial tickets were up by approximately 2%; noting that the joint revenue from ticket production was \$2,900,000 which was up by \$1,000,000 compared to last year.

Chief Beazley also noted that prostitution was down by approximately 16%.

At the request of Commissioner Karsten, Superintendent Spicer indicated that he would attach the HRP Traffic Division Update to his Public Safety Update to Regional Council for their information.

The HRP reports were tabled as submitted.

7.3 Public Safety Update - Superintendent Spicer

- The February 2010 Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter Vol. 2 Issue 2 was submitted.

Superintendent Spicer stated that he had met with Dr. Murphy and Dr. Clairmont and that they were in the process of completing a logic model for the Public Safety Office. Superintendent Spicer noted that he would have more in depth reporting on a go forward basis.

The Board requested that the monthly Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter be emailed to them as well.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Drinking on the Halifax Commons - Commissioner Karsten

Chief Beazley advised that police officers do give warnings to people drinking on the Commons and there are also times when people are given tickets or arrested. He

advised that the HRP would make this an issue for the spring as early intervention was the best manner in which to solve this problem.

8.2. Third Quarter Update for Annual Performance Plan - Superintendent Beaton

1. The Annual Performance Plan Third Quarter Update, Halifax District RCMP, was submitted.

The Board received this item as information and requested that it be included as an item on the next agenda.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for March 8, 2010.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant