



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
September 8, 2014**

PRESENT: Commissioner Mike Moreash, Chair
Commissioner Phil Read, Vice Chair
Commissioner Fred Honsberger
Commissioner Barry Dalrymple
Commissioner Linda Mosher

REGRETS: Commissioner Tim Outhit

STAFF: Deputy Chief Bill Moore, HRP
Inspector Trish MacCormack, RCMP
Ms. Ashley Dutcher, Solicitor
Mr. Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to Board of Police Commissioners are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bpc/140908bopc-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m., and adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. in Halifax Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 14, 2014

Commissioner Mosher extended her thanks on behalf of the Community to Halifax Regional Police for the reopening of the Spryfield Community Police Office.

MOVED by Commissioner Read seconded by Commissioner Honsberger that the minutes of July 14, 2014 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Commissioner Dalrymple requested that agenda items 7.1.6, 7.1.7, and 7.1.8 be moved up on the agenda for discussion.

Additions:

- 8.1 Commissioner Mosher – TAGS Anti-Graffiti Symposium
- 8.2 Commissioner Moreash - Webinar regarding Organized Crime and Terrorism

MOVED by Commissioner Read, seconded Commissioner by Commissioner Dalrymple that the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7.1.6 Canadian Association of Police Governance Conference Recap

Commissioner Moreash provided background information with respect to the CAPG conference and noted that the presentations given at conference are available on the CAPG website. He referenced topics of discussion such as the increasing cost of policing despite decreasing levels of funding for police services. Commissioner Moreash also commended Theresa Rath, Public Relations Manager with Halifax Regional Police for her presentation on policing and social media.

Commissioner Moreash provided background information regarding discussions that took place relating to Mental Health Issues and Policing. He noted encouraging high level discussions with the health authorities and police agencies to help provide assistance and training for officers to become better equipped to deal with mental health issues in the line of duty. With respect to medical marijuana licencing, he referenced a resolution from the CAPG to urge the government of Canada to approve a drug screening tool.

Commissioner Dalrymple noted the contribution of all the volunteers and expressed thanks to Cathy Barrington, Ted Aubut and Jessica Bradley from the Councillors Support office for their volunteer work at the Conference. He noted that the charity golf tournament raised approximately \$1600 for Stetsons and Spurs program and the Halifax Police Foundation.

Commissioner Mosher noted that there was a challenge with respect to organizing the conference after the former Chair had moved to another province. She commented that CAPG in Ottawa provided a large list of volunteer requirements and HRM staff stepped up to volunteer and coordinate. She thanked Cathie Barrington, Manager, Councillor's Office, Ted Aubut, Council Constituency Coordinator, Ken Benoit, Assistant Mayor's Office, former Councillor Sheila Fougere, and Linda Moreash, spouse of the current chair. She extended her thanks to all the other volunteers for making the conference an excellent event.

Commissioner Mosher noted that she managed the golf tournament and extended thanks to Miller Waste and WSP Canada for sponsoring the event and providing \$1,000 towards the Stetsons and Spurs and Halifax Police Foundation. She also thanked Glen Arbour Golf Course for providing an excellent tournament and dinner afterwards. She provided further thanks to Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer and Halifax Transit for coordinating transportation for both golfers and diners. In conclusion Councillor Mosher thanked HRP, RCMP, Councillors Office staff, the Dalhousie University Police Leadership Program, RCR Catering, and the many municipalities and police departments nationwide that donated door prizes for both the golf tournament and the conference.

Commissioner Read echoed Commissioner Dalrymple's comments and noted that it was encouraging to hear from other attendees about how highly regarded the RCMP and Halifax Regional Police are considered by other policing agencies across the country.

Further discussion ensued.

7.1.7 Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Conference

Commissioner Moreash noted that he would like to get authorization from the Board to attend the upcoming conference along with Commissioner Honsberger. He noted the importance of proper representation at the conference from the largest Police Commission in the province, and commented that there is much to be learned from other the Commissions.

Several Commissioners echoed Commissioner Moreash's statement and noted the importance of representation at the NSAPG conference.

Commissioner Read noted that he was in contact with the Chief Administrators Office and noted that attendance for the Chair and Commissioner Honsberger should be within the budget for travel.

MOVED by Commissioner Dalrymple, seconded by Commissioner Mosher that Commissioners Moreash and Honsberger attend the NSAPG Conference subject to available budget funds.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.1.8 Canadian Association of Police Chief's Conference Recap

Deputy Chief Moore provided background information with respect to the Police Chief's Conference held in Saskatchewan. He provided information to the Board on topic discussed such as:

- Emergency Management Measures
- Public Safety and Integration of Technologies
- Police Agency Responses to Officer Suicides and the supports available to employees
- Mental Readiness and Wellness for Officers
- The Economics of Policing
- Research in Leadership

Deputy Chief Moore noted a great deal of value in attending the conference particularly in the areas of leadership and ethics and explained the importance of those in leadership positions to be visible, review values, and to review the fairness reward systems. He commented on the importance of resources

available for professional standards as well as mental health support. He concluded by stating that HRP will be taking part in the second edition of the Professionalism in Policing Survey.

Deputy Chief Moore provided further information pertaining to a \$ 2.9 million donation from law enforcement agencies across Canada to the Special Olympics. He noted that Halifax Regional Police received an honorable mention for its contribution in this area.

Commissioner Dalrymple left the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence

6.1.1 Correspondence from Glenna Cassavechia, President CUPE Local 4814 HRM Crosswalk Guards dated August 28, 2014 re: HRM Crosswalk Guards

Commissioner Mosher noted that all members of Regional Council received this correspondence and noted that it would be a suitable item of discussion for the Board of Police Commissioners.

Superintendent Sean Auld, Halifax Regional Police provided background information with respect to the evaluation criteria for crosswalks which require crosswalk guards. He noted that HRP bases its staffing levels on previous council direction and Transportation Association of Canada Guidelines (TAC) which include pedestrian age, street width, vehicular speeds, sight distance, safe gaps, collision history and general observations. He noted that many locations do not meet current minimum vehicular or pedestrian numbers under the TAC guidelines but HRP chooses to continue or introduce new staff due to other environmental factors not included.

Deputy Chief Moore commented that Crosswalk Guards are employees of Halifax Regional Police and increases and reduction in staffing levels depends on demand for those services. He commented that he is not aware of any complaints regarding staffing levels of cross walk guards.

Deputy Chief Moore noted that the formula used to determine Cross walk staffing does not take in to account increases in occurrences of speeding and distractions such as cell phone usage. He commented that generally, young people are not getting hit in crosswalks, the vast majority are adults. He further remarked that Superintendent Auld is currently reviewing at other jurisdictions across the country to see how crosswalk staffing levels are being conducted.

Commissioner Mosher indicated that a staff report to the Board of Police Commissioners would be useful to provide further information.

MOVED by Councillor Mosher, seconded by Commissioner Read that the Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report outlining HRM's current Crossing Guard Staffing Policy including updates to the Transportation Association of Canada guidelines.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6.2 Petitions – NONE

6.3 Presentation – NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 STAFF

7.1.1 HRP Dashboard Report

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- *The HRP Dashboard Reports*

The HRP Dashboard Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.2 HRP Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The HRP Reports*

The HRP Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.3 HRP Dashboard Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Dashboard Reports*

Inspector Trish MacCormack, RCMP introduced Staff Sargent Rick Potvin, Operations Advisory NCO to Chief Superintendent Wells, who requested to join the meeting to observe. The Board welcomed Staff Sargent Potvin to the meeting and to HRM.

Inspector MacCormack provided an overview of the HRP Dashboard report and noted the strategic use of checkpoints for impaired driving. She noted that it is encouraging that the RCMP did not arrest many impaired drivers over the reporting period.

Inspector MacCormack also advised the Board of the upcoming Regimental Dinner which will take place on October 24. She noted that ticked

The RCMP Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.4 RCMP Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Reports*

The RCMP Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.5 Public Safety Office

S/Sgt. Scott MacDonald, Halifax Regional Police, provided an update from the Public Safety Office. He commented on federal funding available for crime prevention initiatives such as the SNAP Bully Prevention program for young girls and noted that the Public Safety Office is actively assessing these opportunities.

S/Sgt. MacDonald provided information on ongoing work respecting the Crime Free Multi Housing project, a program designed for multiunit housing tenants to advertise their property as crime free zone. He noted that the program provides opportunities to increase public awareness and safety with respect to crime prevention.

7.1.6 Canadian Association of Police Governance Conference Recap

Discussion on this matter took place earlier on the agenda please refer to page 2-3.

7.1.7 Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Conference

Discussion on this matter took place earlier on the agenda please refer to page 3.

7.1.8 Canadian Association of Police Chief's Conference Recap

Discussion on this matter took place earlier on the agenda please refer to page 3.

7.2 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

7.2.1 Updates

Commissioner Honsberger noted that he is actively working on the orientation package for new Commissioners and commented that he will provide further updates as the work progresses.

Commissioner Moreash noted that he will be meeting with the Minister of Justice in the near future respecting the Boots on the Street Program. He further noted his participation in a meeting with Commissioner Honsberger, Read and Kathleen Patterson, Business Initiatives Coordinator respecting HRP's Business Plan.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Commissioner Mosher – TAGS Anti-Graffiti Symposium

Commissioner Mosher gave an update on the upcoming TAGS conference and noted that there will be many people in attendance from business, government, law enforcement and academia. She further commented that the conference provides an excellent opportunity to showcase HRM.

Staff Sergeant MacDonald noted that in overseeing HRP's graffiti enforcement efforts he has learned a great deal about graffiti culture and commented that there are many things that can be derived from graffiti tags with proper training, such as the involvement of gang activity in a particular neighbourhood. He commented that the line-up of speakers looks very good, that staff from his office are helping to host the conference and that it will be very informative for a wide audience.

Commissioner Moreash noted that there may be funding available for Commissioners that are interested in attending the conference and that Commissioners should contact the Chief's Office for further inquiries.

8.2 Commissioner Moreash - Webinar regarding Organized Crime and Terrorism

Commissioner Moreash noted that he had sent out information to the Commissioners regarding an upcoming webinar on Organized Crime and Terrorism. He provided further background information regarding the subject matter of the webinar and noted that Commissioners can participate if they so wish.

Deputy Chief Moore stated that Halifax Regional Police can make the Board Room at HRP Headquarters available to Commissioners who wish to participate in the Webinar.

9. IN CAMERA

9.1.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – July 14, 2014

The following motion was passed in open session:

MOVED by Commissioner Mosher, seconded by Commissioner Read that the In Camera Minutes of July 14, 2014 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 6, 2014

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant