



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
June 8, 2015**

PRESENT: Commissioner Linda Mosher, Chair
Commissioner Steve Adams
Commissioner Steven Graham
Commissioner Jeff Mitchell
Commissioner Sylvia Parris

REGRETS: Commissioner Russell Walker, Vice Chair

STAFF: Chief Jean-Michel Blais, HRP
Chief Superintendent Roland Wells, RCMP
Deputy Chief Bill Moore, HRP
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 are available online:
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bpc/Agendas.php>*

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m., and adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order in Suite 202-204 of the World Trade and Convention Centre, 1800 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 11, 2015

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell that the minutes of May 11, 2015 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Commissioner Mosher requested that agenda items 7.1.2 and 7.1.3 be moved to the beginning of the agenda.

Additions: 8.1 Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police – Minister's Cross Cultural Roundtable on Security

MOVED by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Graham that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED (2/3 Majority vote required).

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Mosher noted that she had submitted a letter to Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) as Chair, in addition to the application form regarding Commissioner Graham's nomination to the Board of Directors as discussed at the May 11, 2015 meeting. She advised that the purpose of the letter was to provide the CAPG with further information about the HRM Board of Police Commissioners.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS – NONE

7. REPORTS

7.1 STAFF

7.1.1 Presentation - Halifax Regional Police Strategic Plan 2015-2025

This matter was dealt with later in the meeting please see page 4.

7.1.2 HRP Dashboard Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The HRP Dashboard Reports*

Chief Blais provided an overview of the HRP Dashboard reports and noted that they are as submitted.

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

7.1.3 HRP Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The HRP Reports*

Chief Blais provided an overview of the HRP Reports and noted that on June 17, 2015, five Sergeants will be promoted as part of HRP's Senior Management team reorganization. He gave an overview of HRP's Training activities for the month of May as well as an assessment of the monthly traffic report. He concluded by noting that HRP's twitter followers grew by six percent in the month of May and stated that HRP's five senior most officers are active twitter users who send tweets on behalf of the force.

Commissioner Parris joined the meeting at 12:52 p.m.

The HRP Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.1 Presentation - Halifax Regional Police Strategic Plan 2015-2025

The following was before the Board:

- *The Halifax Regional Police Strategic Plan 2015-2025*

Chief Blais provided an overview of the Halifax Regional Police Strategic Plan 2015 – 2025 and acknowledged work of all the various internal and external stakeholders who were involved in its completion. He advised that a soft launch of the Strategic Plan was conducted within the organization prior to being presented to the Board. He noted that he has been working with the Chair of the Board to present the Strategic Plan to HRM's Community Council's to help inform local Councillors and the public on the work that HRP is conducting within their communities.

Chief Blais provided an overview of the mission statement, working together to keep our community safe, and advised that HRP is taking a more proactive stance to deal with policing issues within the community. He advised that the public must recognize that HRP is a people based organization comprised of men and women, sworn and civilian who contribute on a regular basis to ensure that communities are safe. He further commented that HRP's strategic approach is routed in respect and integrity and advised that building and maintaining community relationships are the foundation on which HRP's works.

Chief Blais provided further commentary with respect to the advent of Community Policing in HRM and noted the importance of having sound data and intelligence to address crime. He remarked that the way in which the Police communicate with the public has changed rapidly over the years but noted that there are also large groups of individuals that do not have access to the internet which necessitates an inclusive communication strategy. In addition to this, he stated that there is a demonstrated need for accountability within Police Services which comprises a large part of the strategic plan.

Chief Blais noted several initiatives as part of the strategic plan such as the reduction of victimization, the use of Integrated Community Partnerships, operational excellence, and fostering a Learning and Innovative culture. He commented that he will provide monthly updates to the Board with respect to the Strategic Plan to determine the best and most effective way to get the message out to community members.

Councillor Mosher thanked Chief Blais and HRP staff for their hard work on the Strategic Plan and noted that she will be working with the Chief to help coordinate presentations of the Strategic Plan at HRM Community Council meetings. She called for questions from members of the Commission.

Commissioner Graham commended Chief Blais and HRP staff on the strategic plan and noted that community's perception of policing is very important in terms of reassuring public safety and confidence in a police force. He further advised that a values based assessment, as outlined in the strategic plan is just as critical as crime statistics in ensuring public confidence in policing.

Commissioner Mosher thanked Chief Blais and HRP staff for acknowledging the previous members of the Board as well as external stakeholders who had worked on the plan. She commented that she looks forward to the upcoming presentations of the Strategic plan to members of the public.

Further discussion ensued.

7.1.4 RCMP Dashboards

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Dashboard Reports*

Chief Superintendent Roland Wells, RCMP provided an overview of the RCMP Dashboard reports and outlined several programs which comprise the RCMP's Community Policing Engagement initiatives. He provided commentary on programs such as Global Tours, North Preston RCMP Core Group, Diversity Talks and Try Sport which help to build positive relationships with police officers among youth. He further advised that the RCMP lead bike auction helped raise \$3200 for the Stetsons and Spurs project.

Commissioner Mitchell commented that he was involved in a co-op program with the RCMP and HRP in the past and advised that it was a very formative experience.

Further discussion ensued.

7.1.5 RCMP Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Reports*

Chief Superintendent Wells provided an overview of the RCMP Reports and noted that they are as submitted.

The RCMP Reports were received by the Board as Submitted.

7.1.6 Registration of HRP Emblem as a Registered Mark

The following was before the Board:

- *A memorandum dated June 8, 2015.*

Ms. Ashley Dutcher, Solicitor provided an overview of the memorandum relating to the Registration of the HRP Emblem as Registered Mark. She advised that the current HRP emblem was not registered as a trademark, which came to light as part of an overall review. She advised that HRM Legal Services is currently going through the process of registering the emblem as an official mark to ensure that it is the intellectual property of HRM. She advised that an application has been submitted to the Canadian Intellectual Property Office and that they are currently awaiting a response.

Chief Blais commented that one of the reasons that prompted the review was a result of establishing the Halifax Regional Police Foundation to ensure a trademark with respect to raising funds for the foundation.

In response to a follow up question from Commissioner Mosher, Ms. Dutcher commented that the application for the mark has already been advertised in the Trade-marks Journal and advised that the next step will be the issuance of Notice of Allowance.

7.1.7 Public Safety Officer (Presentation)

The following was before the Board

- *A presentation dated June 8, 2015.*

Staff Sargent Scott Macdonald provided a presentation on the public safety office. He noted that it will likely be his last appearance before the Board in his capacity as the Public Safety Officer as the office will

likely be transitioned to HRM administration in the upcoming weeks. He thanked the Board for the oversight for the public safety office which was provided over the past several years.

Councillor Mosher thanked Staff Sargent Macdonald on behalf of the Board for his work as the Public Safety Officer.

7.2 Commissioner Updates – NONE

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police – Minister’s Cross Cultural Roundtable on Security

Chief Blais noted that he was contacted by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) who are looking assisting in finding new additions to Public Safety Canada’s Minister’s Cross Cultural Round Table on Security. He advised that the CACP is looking for people who have a broad spectrum of backgrounds, but also people that represent Canada’s ethnic communities as well. He advised that the CACP is looking for suggestions on solid community members who they deal with on matters of security and are looking at a list of potential candidates. He noted that the position is non-remunerative in nature but costs per diem and travel is paid for through participation, he further advised that group functions as a sounding board for current and future Government plans and often contributes to dialogue on sensitive cultural security related matter.

Commissioner Mosher noted that Commissioner Parris may be interested in the position as she has a great deal of experience in this regard. She further noted that if any Commissioners have suggestions of potential candidates to refer them to Chief Blais.

Chief Superintendent Wells noted an upcoming Crime and Intelligence Symposium being conducted by the RCMP. He advised that it is an international conference which focuses on crime analysis which showcases the important work that is taking place in this regard. He noted that Commissioners who are interested can get in contact with him if they wish to observe.

Commissioner Mitchell commented that he had the opportunity to go on a ride along with Constable Matt Peters and Constable Brad Murray which was very informative.

Commissioner Mosher extended congratulations to Commissioner Mitchell who had recently been admitted to the Bar as a member of the Nova Scotia Barristers Society and to Commissioner Parris who has accepted a new position as the Chief Executive Officer of the Delmore “Buddy” Daye Learning Institute.

9. IN CAMERA

9.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – May 11, 2015

MOVED by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commission Paris that the In Camera Minutes of May 11, 2015 be approved as circulated. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – July 6, 2015

Councillor Mosher noted that the meeting scheduled for August 10, 2015 is likely not required. She inquired if there is consensus among the Board to cancel the meeting.

MOVED by Commissioner Mitchell, seconded by Commissioner Adams that the Board of Police Commissioners cancel the regularly scheduled meeting for August 10, 2015.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant