

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
October 16, 2006

PRESENT: Commissioner Terry Roane, Chair
Commissioner Ernestine Gouthro
Commissioner William White
Commissioner James Perrin
Commissioner Linda Mosher
:
Commissioner Gloria McCluskey
Commissioner Brad Johns

STAFF: Chief Frank Beazley, HRP
Supt. Gordon Barnett, RCMP
Supt. Stephen Sykes, HRP
Ms. Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	CALL TO ORDER	03
2.	MOTION TO CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF MS. ROANE AS CHAIRPERSON	
3.	APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 11, 2006	03
4.	APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS	03
5.	REPORTS	04
5.1	Commissioner Johns - Incident on Seawood Avenue - July 26, 2006	04
6.	ADDED ITEMS	04
6.1	Information Item - Statistics Report - July 2006	04
6.2	Information Item - Statistics Report - August 2006	04
6.3	Location of Meetings - Chief Beazley	04
6.4	Draft Communications Plan - Chief Beazley	05
6.5	Policing in North Central HRM - Supt. Barnett	05
6.6	Canadian Association of Police Boards Conference in Edmonton - Commissioner McCluskey	06
7.	NEXT MEETING	07
8.	ADJOURNMENT	07

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall.

Commissioner Mosher introduced Mr. Kurt Pyle, Coordinator, Office of the Deputy CAO - Operations, who was in attendance to address concerns with regard to parking in Grand Parade. Mr. Pyle indicated that only members of Council and select senior staff with passes are authorized to park in Grand Parade. He noted that parking is available in Grand Parade after 5:00 p.m. to members of Boards and Committees attending meetings at City Hall.

Mr. Perrin suggested that the Board be provided with three temporary parking passes, to be used only during Board of Police Commissioners meetings, and to be returned to the Commissionaire after the meeting. Mr. Pyle indicated that he will raise this request at an upcoming meeting with the Executive Management Team, the Mayor, and the CAO, and report back to the Board.

2. **MOTION TO CONFIRM APPOINTMENT OF MS. ROANE AS CHAIRPERSON**

MOVED by Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner White, that Ms. Terri Roane be appointed as Chair to the Board of Police Commissioners. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councillor Johns arrived at 12:38 p.m.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2006**

Councillor Mosher indicated that she does not believe the minutes of September 11, 2006 captured the her intention nor the essence of the issue with regard to item 4.2 Graffiti.

MOVED by Commissioner Mosher, seconded by Commissioner McCluskey, that the minutes of September 11, 2006 be returned to better reflect Councillor Mosher's comments regarding item 4.2 Graffiti. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. **APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions:

- 6.1 Information Item - Statistics Report - July 2006
- 6.2 Information Item - Statistics Report - August 2006
- 6.3 Location of Meetings - Chief Beazley
- 6.4 Draft Communications Plan - Chief Beazley

- 6.5 Policing in North Central HRM - Supt. Barnett
- 6.6 Canadian Association of Police Boards Conference in Edmonton - Commissioner McCluskey

In Camera Additions:

- 2. Public Security Matter - Fire Bombings - Commissioner Mosher
- 3. Public Security Matter - Excessive Speed on Streets - Commissioner Perrin

MOVED by Commissioner Johns, seconded by Commissioner Gouthro, that the Order of Business, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Commissioner Johns - Incident on Seawood Avenue - July 26, 2006

Commissioner Johns indicated that Councillor Bob Harvey requested that he raise this incident with the Board, in particular concerns raised by residents regarding the response time of the RCMP to this incident.

Supt. Barnett commented that the incident involved an argument between residents of the area, and that several vehicles were vandalized. He advised that there are five members of the Halifax Regional Police ("HRP") that work with the RCMP in Sackville, and that whomever is the first officer on the scene is to deal with the situation. He also noted that three individuals were arrested and are being charged in relation to the incident, one of whom is a young offender. Supt. Barnett advised that, to his knowledge, there have not been any further incidents on the street.

At the request of Councillor Johns, Supt. Barnett advised he would look into having bike patrols or on-foot patrols of Seawood Avenue.

6. ADDED ITEMS

6.1 Information Item - Statistics Report - July 2006

This item was distributed for the information of Board members. No action required.

The Board requested that clarification be sought with regard to a daily media or incident report coming from HRP and/or RCMP, in particular, what information is going out, what information should be going out, and who it should be going to. It was noted that Commissioners White, Roane, and Gouthro have not been receiving these reports.

6.2 Information Item - Statistics Report - August 2006

This item was distributed for the information of Board members. No action required.

6.3 Location of Meetings - Chief Beazley

Chief Beazley offered that, due to parking restrictions at City Hall, meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners could be moved to the Meisner Room of Regional Police headquarters on Gottingen Street. He indicated that there is free parking in the south parking lot at headquarters, and there is metered parking on the street if the parking lot is full.

MOVED by Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner White, that meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners be moved to the Regional Police Headquarters.

Commissioner Perrin suggested that if Mr. Pyle comes back with a positive response from the Executive Management Team regarding the temporary parking passes, changing the location of the meetings would be unnecessary.

Commissioner McCluskey, with the agreement of the seconder, amended her motion as follows:

MOVED by Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner White, that if a positive response is not received from Executive Management with regard to obtaining three temporary parking passes for the Board, that the meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners be moved to Regional Police Headquarters. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Chief indicated he will tentatively book the Meisner Room.

6.4 Draft Communications Plan - Chief Beazley

C A copy of the Draft Communications Plan was distributed to the Board.

Chief Beazley indicated that a joint HRP and RCMP Communications Plan has been drafted, noting that the HRM Corporate Communications department is also working on the Plan, which is ready for review and input by internal and external bodies. The Chief requested that Board members review the Plan and submit comments directly to Chief Beazley and/or Supt. Barnett.

Commissioner McCluskey suggested that policy be included in the Communications Plan to address timely notification of information to members of Regional Council. Chief Beazley indicated he would add a clause to this effect.

It was requested that this item be included on the next agenda for further review and discussion.

Councillor Mosher indicated that a Principal of a school in her district recently contacted her to determine whom from the Police he should invite to a meeting of a school advisory committee to discuss vandalism in the community. Chief Beazley suggested she contact Staff Sergeant Richard Lane with the HRP to delegate an officer to attend these meetings.

The Board briefly discussed vandalism, youth crime, and the use of video surveillance by Police. The Chief indicated that a report regarding video surveillance is being prepared, as per direction from Council. He noted that this report will first come before the Board, and then to Council.

6.5 Policing in North Central HRM - Supt. Barnett

Supt. Barnett provided the Board with a brief update on the status of resources that were provided to the RCMP through the business plan. He commented that permanent policing is now in place in the north central part of HRM, which includes Musquodoboit, which was previously served through the Enfield detachment of the RCMP. Supt. Barnett advised that there are now four experienced officers patrolling the area, a temporary office is in place, and a permanent office in Middle Musquodoboit will be opened soon. He indicated that positive feedback has been received from residents regarding the enhanced community policing.

6.6 Canadian Association of Police Boards Conference in Edmonton - Commissioner McCluskey

C A copy of motions with commentary submitted by the Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police Association at the Canadian Association of Police Boards Conference was distributed to Board members.

Commissioner McCluskey indicated that she recently attended the Canadian Association of Police Boards conference in Edmonton. She is awaiting the official summation from the conference, which she will share with the Board. Commissioner McCluskey reviewed some motions that were submitted by the Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police Association, that were passed at the conference, regarding enhancement of services to young persons necessary to support the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and amendments to the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.

Commissioner McCluskey also recommended to Board members reading "The Police Code of Silence" by Michael Quinn.

At the request of Commissioner McCluskey, Chief Beazley advised that he recently spoke with the Minister of Justice, the Honourable Murray Scott, regarding the promise of 250 more police officers for Nova Scotia, and he indicated that he is pursuing this initiative with Federal and

Provincial officials to make it happen. The Chief noted that meetings are being arranged for November to discuss Provincial promises made with regard to policing, and he is anticipating an invitation to these meetings.

Commissioner McCluskey advised that she also recently attended a meeting of the Nova Scotia Board of Police Commissioners in Truro. She noted that concerns regarding frequent membership changes on Boards of Police Commissioners and the need for stability and continuity on these Boards were discussed at this meeting.

Commissioner Johns indicated that membership on the Board of Police Commissioners is a highly sought after position with members of Council, which may be the reason for the two year terms of appointment for Councillors. He suggested that there may be an opportunity to extend the terms of appointment of the Provincial and citizen representatives on the Board.

Commissioner Mosher commented on the amount of information to read and learn when first appointed to the Board, and that it should be ensured that those appointed have the time and interest to be educated on the many issues before the Board.

At the request of Commissioner McCluskey, the Chair advised that she will obtain copies of the *Police Act* for members of the Committee.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners is scheduled for November 20, 2006. The Chair commented that she may have work commitments on that date, and an alternative meeting date was proposed for November 27, 2006. The Legislative Assistant will confirm the meeting date, time and location with members.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned into the In Camera session at 1:46 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle
Legislative Assistant

