

Police Review & Advisory Board

51 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02130
617-349-4396

Minutes 1/27/10

Board Members Present: Mertin Betts (chair), Martin Small, Susan Melucci, and Richard Peters

Staff Present: Executive Secretary Marlyssa Brigggett and Investigative Outreach Liaison Joseph Johnson

Cambridge Police: Deputy Superintendent Christine Elow

Public Present: Albert Skane, Edward Childs, Richard Cleary and Bishop Teixeira, Brigitt Keller, King Downing, City Councilor Kenneth Reeves, Jamarhl Crawford, Cornell Mills, and R. Bruce Sinclair

- Meeting began at 6:15 pm with an introduction by Ms. Brigggett, board members, staff and the public. There was discussion on the difference between PRAB and the Review Committee which was holding a community meeting at the same time. Members of the public engaged the Board, its staff and the police in discussions regarding the different roles of the two panels. Concerns were expressed regarding the Review Panel.
- Councilor Reeves informed PRAB about a forum to be held on February 11th, 2010 at the Christian Life Center entitled "Policing, Discretion and Race in Cambridge." He indicated that the event was organized in response to the Gates incident.
- The Board discussed the agenda items which included a report by staff member Johnson and Mr. Peters about their attendance at the NACOLE Conference. Mr. Peters indicated that NACOLE expressed interest in hosting a Northeast regional event. Mr. Peters shared an interest in developing a mediation program with the Police Department consistent with some ideas learned at the NACOLE conference. Mr. Johnson indicated that he and Mr. Peters received credits certifying them as Oversight Practitioners by NACOLE.
- The Board voted to convene a special meeting to hear from the public on February 10, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.
- Board voted to convene in executive session to discuss investigatory matters.
- The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:15 p.m.