



SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

College Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for January 20, 2023

1:00 – 2:00 pm, Zoom

Committee Members Present: Joel Peterson, John Parker, Kimberly Tapia, Jack Beresford, Nadia Sayeh, Darius Spearman, Caitlin Tiffany, John Bromma, Kimberly Palek, Anna Liza Manzo, Joseph Ramos, Nancy Schumaker, Patrick Velasquez

Committee Members Absent: Daniel Brislin, David Mehlhoff, Kevin Branson, Neill Kovrig, Marie Migambi, Cat Le, Emily Smith, Xi Chen, Gerald Brown, Aaron Burgess

Meeting commenced 1:03 pm

John Parker asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented, approved with unanimous consent.

John Parker asked for a motion to approve the revised minutes from October 28, 2022, minutes from November 30 and December 19, 2022 as presented; Nancy motioned to approve and Darius seconded; and, those present approved all minutes. Jack abstained as his committee membership commenced after the previous meetings.

John introduced Jack Beresford, Communications and Public Relations Director for SDCCD. Jack was recently appointed as a voting member of this committee by Chancellor Cortez. John informed the committee that we are actively seeking ASG student representation from all campuses through the district's Student Services office.

Agenda item 5 was moved up due to technology issues. Chief Ramos reminded the committee of the pros and cons of on-campus officer attire. He shared that less official uniforms could be used during trainings with staff and student to increase conversation and reduce tension; but concerned with patrol officers not being perceived as credible law enforcement officers resulting in resistance. He reminded the committee that the first question asked in a court case is what the officer was wearing at the time of the incident. When officers wear polo shirts it restricts the ability to carry necessary on-duty equipment including radios and body worn cameras. It may also be confusing to identify a sworn officer versus a security officer. VC Peterson stated that he appreciates the professional opinions and all concerns addressed. He acknowledged all of the valid concerns including those addressed with emotions. He proposed doing a uniform pilot program with a to-be-determined selection of alternate uniforms that meet the legal requirements needed to identify police officers but potentially less triggering of anxiety for some people. The SDCCD Board of Trustees is open to supporting SDCCD PD conducting a uniform pilot program by engaging a survey for the duration of the pilot program, collecting and then analyzing data before making a final decision. Darius supports doing a pilot upon determining the details including how long to run the survey and the data to be collected. He also addressed City College's close proximity to another police agency and concerns with being able to differentiate other uniformed police. VC Peterson emphasized the need to make our students comfortable by differentiating our district officers. Patrick asked if it was common for other community agencies to respond to our campuses and Nancy shared that it was very rare, only upon request for assistance if a major event was occurring. Nancy shared that the state mandates specific identifying items including a badge, nametag and agency patch. Chief Ramos shared that all law enforcement agencies have legal authority to come onto our campuses but work together to announce arrival in advance to minimize confusion; and, is not typical unless an emergency. VC Peterson appreciates all concerns addressed and wants to take a proactive approach to a uniform pilot. He briefly shared a presentation that demonstrated uniforms worn by other school agencies and wants to work on this as timely as possible. Kimberly suggested reviewing some of the research data readily available as the pilot is structured, including students' ability to identify officers in a crowd.

Darius presented the draft PAC bylaws following the first reading of the PAC bylaws on behalf of the subcommittee. The draft bylaws will be circulated to the PAC committee by email for review and second reading prior to the next meeting. If there are no additional changes to the bylaws, the PAC can vote during the next meeting.

VC Peterson shared that the working group is still developing the mental health professional job description with emphasis on this being a pilot program. The draft job description will be circulated to this committee by email for review and to provide feedback to the working group. Kimberly is a member of the working group and added that the document should be considered a very rough draft at this stage and not to be concerned with terminology when reviewing. She encourages feedback in lay terms. Patrick inquired about SDCCD's funding for the mental health professional position(s); VC Peterson clarified that there was an original grant considered and the district has subsequently identified another grant so they have committed funding for two (2) positions during the initial pilot program. Nadia shared that she is also on the working committee and looks forward to their second meeting coming up as they develop the draft job description. Nadia concluded with a recent successful suicide prevention training presented by City's Student Health Center that was supported and attended by campus police; noting there will be additional upcoming suicide prevention trainings for anyone interested.

The next meeting is February 16, 2023 at 1:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm