

Police Civilian Review Panel

January 4, 2024

Fairfax County Government Center

12000 Government Center Pkwy Fairfax, VA 22035

Meeting Summary

Panel Members Present:

Cheri Belkowitz, Vice Chair  
Todd Cranford, Chair  
Fazia Deen (virtual)  
Bryon Garner  
Michael Lau  
William Ware  
Janell Wolfe

Others Present:

Sanjida Lisa, PCRP  
Rachelle Ramirez, OIPA  
Richard Schott, OIPA  
Kenneth Bynum, Counsel  
Lt. Matt Lane, Internal Affairs Bureau  
Lt. Chris Cosgriff, Internal Affairs Bureau

Chair Cranford called the Police Civilian Review Panel's (PCR) business meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., and after taking attendance, noted the presence of a quorum. He welcomed everyone to the Panel's January 4, 2024, meeting.

Approval of Agenda: Mr. Garner moved approval of the meeting agenda. Ms. Wolfe seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Approval of December 7, 2023 Draft Meeting Summary: Mr. Ware moved approval of the December 7, 2023 draft meeting summary. Mr. Garner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2024 Panel Elections: Chair Cranford announced that we will hold the 2024 Panel elections. Vice Chair Cheri Belkowitz will become the new Chair of the Panel, effective March 2024. Chair Cranford opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Mr. Garner self-nominated for Vice Chair and Mr. Ware seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Belkowitz nominated Ms. Wolfe for Vice Chair and Mr. Lau seconded the motion. Ms. Wolfe accepted the nomination and stated that she had been on the Panel for a couple years and understood how the Panel and various processes worked. Ms. Wolfe further stated that she likes the work of the Panel and does not take the work lightly. Mr. Garner stated that he wanted to engage more with the Panel and with the Fairfax County community. Mr. Garner also stated that he previously served on the review board in San Diego and had experience working with a department that wanted to grow.

Mr. Ware suggested that the Panel defer the vote for Vice chair to the end of the meeting and Chair Cranford agreed to do so.

New Business: Chair Cranford provided a brief overview of the topics discussed at the December 21, 2023, quarterly meeting held at the Fairfax County Government Center. In attendance were:

PCRPP Chair Cranford; PCRPP Vice Chair Belkowitz; PCRPP Project Analyst Sanjida Lisa; Independent Police Auditor Richard Schott; Rachelle Ramirez; Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) Chief Davis and his Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) leadership team, and the Board of Supervisor representatives.

Vice Chair Belkowitz discussed the new information FCPD shared regarding the Panel's recommendations matrix and the Panel questions that FCPD clarified during the meeting. She also shared that FCPD had informed the group that some of the General Orders (GO) mentioned in the matrix were outdated and new GO's in place would be more applicable.

Chair Cranford also shared that going forward these meetings would likely occur approximately three times a year, instead of meeting quarterly. Vice Chair Belkowitz reiterated the Panel's request that the Panel members have access to the investigative file throughout the subcommittee review process, instead of having it for a finite amount of time prior to the subcommittee.

Ms. Wolfe inquired whether the administrative changes the Panel made to its procedures at the December 7, 2023, were adopted or if they needed to be voted on. Chair Cranford responded that the changes were already adopted and effective.

Vice Chair Belkowitz asked whether the Panel was able to have remote participation or remote meetings for subcommittees, emergency meetings and regular Panel business meetings. Counsel and staff responded that Panel members can participate remotely at Panel business meetings, as long as there is at least a quorum physically present at the meeting.

Ms. Deen joined the meeting virtually at 7:32 p.m.

Chair Cranford stated that the Panel will consider the 2023 Annual Report at the next Panel meeting on February 1, 2024.

2024 Panel Elections continued: The vote for Vice Chair commenced, with two votes for Mr. Garner and four votes for Ms. Wolfe. Ms. Wolfe was elected the new Vice Chair of the Panel effective March 1, 2024.

Adjournment: Mr. Garner motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lau seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.