

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADVISORY BOARD

September 9, 2021

A meeting of the Marquette University Police Department (MUPD) Advisory Board was called to order on Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 11:02 a.m. Due and timely notice of the meeting and an agenda were provided by email to each member of the Board in advance of the meeting. Notice of the meeting was also posted on the MUPD Advisory Board website. The meeting was open to the public and login information for the Microsoft Teams meeting was available to anyone who requested it.

Roll Call. Board members attending the meeting were Michael O’Hear, Chair of the Board and Professor, Marquette University Law School (attending in person in Room 432 of Eckstein Hall); Dr. Meghan Stroshine, Vice Chair of the Board and Associate Professor in Social & Cultural Sciences, Klingler College of Arts and Sciences (attending via Microsoft Teams); Keith Stanley, Executive Director of Avenues West and Near West Side Partners (Teams); Katie Breck, President of Marquette University Student Government (MUSG) (Teams); and Ms. Cliona Draper, Prospect Research Analyst in University Advancement (Teams). Non-Board Members present at the meeting included Edith Hudson, MUPD Chief (in person); Jeff Kranz, Assistant MUPD Chief (in person); Ruth Peterson, MUPD Captain (in person); Jim Hensley, MUPD Lieutenant (in person); Tom Wichgers, MUPD Officer (Teams); Carrie Peters, MUPD Data Analytics Specialist (Teams); and Kevin Conway, OMC Associate Director (Teams).

Congratulations to Deputy Chief Kranz. The Board expressed its congratulations to Deputy Chief Kranz for his Excellence in University Service Award.

Updates on Departmental Activities, Initiatives and Crime Statistics. The following updates were provided by MUPD personnel:

1. **Radios:** MUPD staff have new radios that permit connection with other law enforcement agencies.
2. **Student Safety Group:** MUPD has launched a new initiative that involves collaborating with MUSG to identify and address safety concerns raised by students.
3. **Softball Game with UWM Police:** MUPD has annual softball game with UWM department to raise money for charity. This year, MUPD won. About \$500 was raised for a childhood cancer charity.
4. **Crime Statistics:**
 - a. Dramatic rise in motor vehicle thefts in patrol zone, up from 9 at this time last calendar year to 82 so far this year. About half of victims are MU students. Hyundais and Kias are especially targeted. Rise in car thefts is a city-wide problem, not limited to MU area. MUPD has reached out to the 2 car companies to ask for their help in fighting the theft wave. Hyundai offered 200 “clubs,” which are expected soon and will be made available to students and staff.
 - b. Robberies are about the same this year, while thefts from person are down.

- c. Assaults are up this year (23 to 48), consistent with city trends. No breakdown on MU versus non-MU victims was available, but will be provided at next meeting.
 - d. Burglaries are about the same this year. Challenge right now is serial burglars, who are not being held in jail when caught.
 - e. One sexual assault reported so far this year.
 - f. There have been a few incidents involving repeated assaults on campus by individuals with mental illness, who are not being held in jail when apprehended. MUPD has worked with OMC to create a new type of alert, giving description of problematic individuals and asking for MUPD to be notified if the individuals are spotted on campus. MUPD has also worked with a DA who focuses on mental health issues so as obtain court orders for treatment of a couple of these individuals.
5. Sept. 9 Incident: A shot was fired as part of a parking dispute at 22nd and Wisconsin. MUPD responded and was able to take shooter into custody the next day. There have been two other incidents of violence in the same area so far this year, but they do not appear related to one another; location appears to be more a matter of coincidence.
 6. New Team Member: Chief Hudson welcomed Lieutenant Hensley, who will focus on accreditation and training.
 7. Community Engagement:
 - a. Wellness Open House Event: MUPD hosted first of what is expected to be a regular series of programs on wellness for Department staff and families.
 - b. Upcoming Events: National Faith and Blue Weekend (unity walk and kickball game), National Alliance on Mental Illness walk, National Coffee with a Cop event in Eckstein Commons.
 - c. Ongoing Efforts: backpack program, weekly pickups from Feeding America, and hygiene product drive.
 8. Staffing Vacancies: Like many other police agencies, MUPD is having difficulty filling to police officer vacancies. Other current vacancies include public safety officer, dispatcher, and police aide. Police aide program gives paid internship to high school graduates until they are able to enter academy and train to become police officer. MUPD's first police aide graduated from academy earlier this year.

Public Comments. None.

Other Business. Dr. Stroshine was reelected as Vice-Chair of the Board for the new academic year.

Next Meeting Date. Next meeting date will be determined later this fall, likely in November or December 2021.

Adjournment. The Chair concluded the meeting and adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael O'Hear
Chair, MUPD Advisory Board

