



**CITY OF YPSILANTI
POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING
MARCH 24, 2022 @ 7:00 AM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL
One South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
[VIRTUAL ACCESS](#)**

Page

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS:

Gail Wolkoff
Herman Humes
Kathleen McCormick
Rene Echols

STAFF LIASION:

Chief DeGisuti

COUNCIL LIAISON:

Council Member Anthony Morgan

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

V. RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

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A. Approving the minutes of December 16, 2021.
[POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION - 16 Dec 2021 - Minutes](#)

B. ~~Director Derrick Jackson of Community Engagement, WLIVE (Removed)~~

C. Police Department monthly statistical analysis. - Chief DeGuisti

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D. Approval of the 2021 Police Advisory Commission Annual Report
[Report](#)

E. Police Advisory Commission Annual Officer Elections

- Chair
- Vice-Chair

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

VIII. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION Meeting

7:00 PM - Thursday, December 16, 2021
Council Chambers

The POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION of the City of Ypsilanti was called to order on Thursday, December 16, 2021, at 7:00 PM on the Zoom Platform, with the following members present:

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

II ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS:

PRESENT: Renee Echols (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Andy Fanta (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Herman Humes (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Kathleen McCormick (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County), Gail Wolkoff (City of Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County)

III AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Fanta moved, seconded by Commissioner Echols, to approve the agenda as submitted.
on a voice vote, the motion carried.

IV PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

None

V RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS/DISCUSSIONS

a) Approval of the November 18, 2021 YPAC Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Fanta moved, seconded by Commissioner McCormick, to approve the minutes as submitted.

APPROVED: Yes - 5; No - 0; Absent - 0

b) Monthly statistical analysis report - Chief DeGiusti

c) Approval of the 2021 Police Advisory Commission Annual Report

Commissioner Fanta moved, seconded by Commissioner McCormick, to table the annual report, and have the City Clerk make edits and forward to the Chair for review.

APPROVED: Yes - 5; No - 0; Absent - 0

Commissioner Echols moved, seconded by Commissioner Fanta, to request City Council postpone the joint meeting until February.

APPROVED: Yes - 5; No - 0; Absent - 0

- d) Approval of the 2022 Schedule of Meetings for YPAC

Commissioner Echols moved, seconded by Commissioner Fanta, to approve the 2022 Police Advisory Commission Schedule and maintain the fourth Thursday as meeting dates except in November and December.

APPROVED: Yes - 5; No - 0; Absent - 0

VI OLD BUSINESS

- a) Communications strategy for Boards and Commissions

VII PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES)

None

VIII NEXT MEETING DATE

- a) January 27, 2021

IX ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Echols moved, seconded by Commissioner Fanta, to adjourn the meeting.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.



City of Ypsilanti

Police Advisory
Commission

INTRODUCTION

The Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission was created by ordinance 1295 in November 2017 (Chapter 2, Article 4, Division 6). The following is the purpose from Sec.2-181:

- To strengthen the relationship between the community of the City of Ypsilanti and the Ypsilanti Police Department.
- To serve as a liaison to enhance community and police relations and serve as an advocate for programs, ideas, and methods to improve the relations between the police and the community
- To Review police complaint investigatory findings, and report to council on the Commission's analysis of these findings
- To collect, review, and audit summary data and compile aggregate statistics relating to individual or community police complaints and other issues of importance
- To educate the public about complaint process, and ensure and recommend ways to make the process accessible to all
- To make recommendations to the City Manager about organizational matters and procedures.
- To participate in annual review of the Ypsilanti Police Department's Citizen Police Academy.
- To consult and advise the City Manager on the Ypsilanti Police Department's strategic plan.
- Per Chapter 78- 49(6), the Commission must provide an annual report to City Council.

OPERATIONS

The Commission held regular monthly meetings during 2021 virtually via Zoom. YPAC wants to bring all voices and ideas to the 2021 zoom table. Given the virtual meetings, commissioners worked to stay engaged with one another and current concerns, for example, when personal technology permitted, each commissioner agreed to have their screen on and to stay on mute when not talking.

MEMBERSHIP:

In 2021, the YPAC Commission's memberships was as follows:

| Commissioner | Term end date |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Andy Fanta | February 1, 2022 |
| Gail Wolkoff, Chair | February 1, 2023 |
| Renee Echols | February 1, 2023 |
| Kathleen McCormick | February 1, 2024 |
| Herman Humes, Jr | February 1, 2024 |
| 2 Vacancies | |
| 2 Youth Vacancies | |

Overview of the membership changes:

- New chair and vice chair were elected in February:
Chair, Heather Freeling Vice Chair, Gail Wolkoff
- Heather Freeling resigned in April because she moved outside the City of Ypsilanti.
- Gail Wolkoff was elected Chair in May 2021.

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- A Vice Chair has not been elected. Commissioners wanted to wait until there was a full commission before nominating someone.
- Precious Turman applied, was nominated, and was approved by council but failed to attend meetings for three months. Several Commissioners and the City Clerk reached out to her to learn more with no response. YPAC recommended and City Council approved her removal in September.
- Colleen Kennedy resigned from the commission in September for personal reasons
- YPAC needs a commissioner from both Ward 1 and 3.

PRESENTATIONS:

At each YPAC meeting, Chief DeGiusti or Lieutenant Yuchasz presents monthly statistics for the Ypsilanti Police Department. These reports include:

- Activity report: statistics for the current period reflected by the past three months, Personnel updates which include hiring and the status of new officers as they progress to be a Full Time Officer
- Department Activity which includes meetings Chief DeGiusti and COPCRU attended
- Citizen Complaints which include a brief scenario, action taken, and status as either founded or unfounded.
- Use of force which includes a brief scenario
- Crime Stats
- Courts and Law Enforcement Management Information System, CLEMIS. The Crime stats compare the same month last year and year to date information. Arrest Stats include comparisons to same time last year and year to date for both adults and children.
- Relevant articles Chief DeGiusti share with the commission.

After the presentation there is a question-and-answer period concerning the monthly statistics and questions received from the community.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS:

- Barbara Niess-May from SafeHouse gave a sexual assault and a Domestic Violence update for Ypsilanti
- Eli Savit introduced himself as the new Prosecuting attorney in Washtenaw County
- Ashley Shukait from Unified Health presented on risk assessment, harm reduction and the drug paraphernalia ordinance
- Dr Kevin Karpiak presented on analyzing police traffic stop data for evidence bias

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Resolution No. 2021-001
September 23, 2021**

That the commission urges city council by formal resolution to:

Urge the proper Washtenaw County authorities to develop a policy for free calls from individuals in Washtenaw County, and

To establish a city policy to aid and assist individuals with their criminal record expungements, and

To develop a city policy concerning open records for the hiring of prospective police officers for the city of Ypsilanti.

That the commission recommend city council remove Commissioner Turman from the Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission

**Resolution No. 2021-005
October 28, 2021**

The Police Advisory Commission wishes to provide for greater transparency on the Police Department; and

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WHEREAS; including photos and bios of officers on the website, would add to the public trust of the department.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Police Advisory request the City Manager to direct the Police Department to include photos and bios of Ypsilanti Police Officers on the City website.

**Resolution No. 2021-006
November 18, 2021**

Whereas, The State of Michigan has recently expanded expungements, however, the process and procedures remain the same; and

Whereas, each offense a person has been committed must be expunged from the court in which the conviction was made; and

WHEREAS; an expungement should be a streamlined process and a petitioner should be able to bring all expungements together as one action in the Circuit Court of the county of residence of the petitioner.

Now therefore be it resolved that Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission recommend City Council pass a resolution to urge that the process for expungement be more streamlined for petitioners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that this resolution be forwarded to the Washtenaw County Bar Association and any other organizations designated by Council.

Recommended and scheduled biannual joint meetings with City Council

Increased number of participants attending the virtual YPAC meetings. The range has been 0-8. The last three months there have been at least three residents attending.

LOOKING FORWARD

YPAC looks forward to future progress on the following projects and goals:

- Continue to have joint biannual meetings with City Council
- Communication in the City of Ypsilanti newsletter and other modes of sharing information about YPAC
- Learn about analyzing Police Traffic Stop Data for Evidence Bias in Ypsilanti
- Increase the attendance and participation at YPAC monthly meetings
- Find commissioners from wards 1 and 3
- Build a stronger relationship between residents of Ypsilanti, the police department,
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