

**CITY OF YPSILANTI  
POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION AGENDA  
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2018  
7:00 P.M.  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Andy Fanta	Present
Heather Freeling	Present
Kathleen McCormick	Present
Susan Melke	Present
Michael Stone-Richard	Absent
Gail Wolkoff	Absent

**STAFF LIASON:**

Police Chief Tony DeGuisti Present

**III. AGENDA APPROVAL**

**Commissioner Melke moved, seconded by Commissioner McCormick, to approve the agenda as submitted.**

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the minutes were approved.

**Commissioner Melke moved, seconded by Commissioner McCormick to amend the agenda to add four New Business matters to the agenda: A) Five-minute public comment length; B) Y-Pac Contact Groups Chart; C) Police complaint form; D) Town Hall plans; and E) Resolution to remove Commissioner Stone-Richard**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. July 23, 2018 Work Session Minutes
- B. July 26, 2018 Minutes

**Commissioner Melke moved, seconded by Commissioner McCormick to approve the minutes.**

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the minutes were approved.

**V. REPORTS**

- A. Chief of Police

Chief DeGiusti noted an upcoming public meeting to address the resurgence of juvenile issues and increased drug activity. He reported one citizen complaint this month related to a parking violation. He informed that there were three new hires in the department with room for an additional employee in the year's budget.

Commissioner Fanta stated that he would like Chief DeGiusti's assistance in designing a one-page form for reporting monthly police department activity to the Commission.

B. Commission Chair

Commissioner Fanta informed the Commission he is working with the city in order to acquire e-mail addresses for the Commissioners.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Leah Mills-Chapman, Ypsilanti Resident, sought additional information from Chief DeGiusti regarding the resurgence of juvenile issues and the demographic of the new hire.

Chief DeGiusti indicated that of the three new hires, two are African-American males and one is a white male. He stated that there has been a recent resurgence of juvenile fighting and disorderly conduct at the transit center. Commissioner Melke stated that the problems with juvenile conduct at the transit center are being addressed.

**VII. Y-PAC CONTACT GROUPS**

Commissioner Fanta indicated that he had met with Ms. Mills-Chapman and suggested that Y-Pac Contact Groups be formed to report on isolated issues within the community. The Commission engaged in conversation regarding the formation and focus of the Y-Pac Contact Groups.

Commissioner Fanta assigned each Commissioner to adopt a particular focus group as follows:

- Commissioner Melke: mental health;
- Commissioner Freeling: Downtown/Depot Town business;
- Commissioner Fanta: youth/education;
- Commissioner McCormick: seniors, pastors and housing groups.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Heritage Festival
- B. Summerfest
- C. Farmers Market
- D. Ypsilanti Police Advisory Commission Contact

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Five-minute public comment length

Commissioners Fanta and Melke debated whether the public could speak to any topic of their choosing. Deputy Clerk Andrew Hellenga commented that the public comment portion of the

meeting is open to any topic of discussion.

B. Y-Pac Contact Groups Chart

C. Police complaint form

Commissioner Melke suggested editing the police complaint form to notify unsatisfied complainants of their right to contact City Manager or City Council. Commissioner McCormick stated that people will continue their fight if they feel they were not awarded justice. Chief DeGuisti clarified that the form was voted on and approved by City Council. Commissioner Fanta questioned how the City Manager would handle the additional complaints.

**Commissioner Susan Melke moved, not seconded to recommend City Council Committee add language to police complaint form indicating additional action steps available through the City Manager's office and/or City Council Committee**

**Failed: Yes – 1; No – 3; Absent – 2 (Stone-Richard and Wolkoff)**

D. Town Hall plans

Commissioner Melke suggested that the Commission start preparing for the Town Hall meeting. The Commission agreed that Chief DeGuisti should attend the first portion to address specific questions before allowing the public an additional opportunity to speak more privately after his departure.

Commissioner Melke suggested Parkridge, and Commissioner Fanta directed Commissioner Melke to take the lead on securing that location.

E. Resolution to remove Commissioner Stone-Richard

Commissioner Fanta indicated that he would request from City Council \$200 to fund marketing materials, request removal of Commissioner Michael Stone-Richard, and relay the Commission's concern with a lack of minority members on its panel and desire to be “full-strength”.

**Commissioner Susan Melke moved, seconded by Heather Freeling to request removal of Commissioner Michael Stone-Richard**

**Approved: Yes – 4; No – 0; Absent – 2 (Stone-Richard and Wolkoff)**

**Commissioner Susan Melke moved, seconded by Kathleen McCormick to establish a new attendance policy for the commissioners wherein 3 consecutive unexplained absences will result in automatic removal recommendation to City Council Committee**

**Approved: Yes – 4; No – 0; Absent – 2 (Stone-Richard and Wolkoff)**

## X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Leah Mills-Chapman, Ypsilanti Resident, indicated that the police complaint form is not user-friendly on the mobile website. She indicated her concern that the Commission is disjointed. She indicated her support of the Y-Pac groups as a way to extrapolate data. She encouraged the Commission to collaborate with the police department to take part in the fun activities within the community.

**Commissioner Susan Melke moved, seconded by Heather Freeling to allow speaker to continue speaking**  
**Approved: Yes – 4; No – 0; Absent – 2 (Stone-Richard and Wolkoff)**

Commissioner Melke responded to Ms. Mills-Chapman's concerns and indicated that no more than three Commissioners are allowed to meet outside of the public meetings.

Chief DeGiusti reported that all “hands on deck” will be at the Heritage Festival and that he will be at the Summrefest He advised that complaints are not only available online but also in person and by phone.

Deputy Clerk Andrew Hellenga indicated that e-mails cannot be copied to all of the Commissioners, and discussion resumed regarding Y-Pac e-mail account creation.

## XI. ADJOURNMENT

**The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.**