The regular meeting of the Advisory Committee on Police Community Relations was held Thursday, August 8, 2019, in Room 404 at City Hall, 419 Fulton Street, Peoria, Illinois with proper notice posted. Acting chair Zagardo called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**
**Present:** Ali, Allen, Begner, Boone, Burnside Draper, Ford, Jackson, King, Marion, Wilson, and Zagardo.
**Absent:** Burch, Green (excused), Nguyen (excused). Acting chair Zagardo acknowledged a quorum.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Member Burnside motioned to approve the June 13, 2019 minutes; seconded by member Begner. Minutes unanimously approved.

**WELCOME**
Welcome was extended to the newest members on the committee: Andre Allen, Demario Boone, Bobby Ford, and Karen Wilson.

**GENERAL POLICE UPDATE** - Police Chief Marion updated the committee on the UCR crime stats through June 30, 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crimes Against Person</th>
<th>2018 Y-T-D</th>
<th>2019 Y-T-D</th>
<th>+/-</th>
<th>% change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicides/Murder</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault /Battery</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>+43</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Assault</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>+27</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crimes Against Property</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>355</td>
<td>-117</td>
<td>-25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary (building)</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>-61</td>
<td>-16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>1,189</td>
<td>1,256</td>
<td>+67</td>
<td>+6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>-136</td>
<td>-25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-11</td>
<td>-39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were 48 shooting incidents with 59 victims. He indicated a shooting incident may have multiple victims and considered to be one incident with multiple victims.

As of August 7, 2019, the police department seized 232 illegal firearms compared to 268 in all of 2018. Expect 2019 to be the highest year of firearms seized since 2006. The highest year was 2017 of 318 illegal firearms seized.

The Police Department continue to email alert notifications to neighborhood associations for residents to help deter burglaries to lock their vehicles, homes, and garages and more important to not leave other keys, such as spouse, significant other, in vehicles. Once thieves find the keys, they would return and steal the other vehicle and the reason to why there is an increase in stolen vehicles.
As of August 7, 2019, there were 55 overdose victims compared to 127 in 2018 and two overdose deaths compared to 13 in 2018. A significant decline due to public education and Narcan.

Chief Marion acknowledged how community participation is important to help police solve crimes. He shared Community participation assisted in the investigation that helped solve the shooting homicide of a 16 year old within two hours. He expressed the Department’s continued efforts to change the mindset of individuals to build a positive relationship with the community and police to work together.

Member Ali requested current members on the Advisory Committee be added to the communications group to receive news and press releases.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mission Statement - After some discussion on the mission statement, acting chair Zagardo recommended to postpone further discussion. Member Draper motioned to table the discussion on the mission statement until Mr. Ken Bergeron from the U. S. Department of Justice would be in attendance; seconded by member Jackson. Motion unanimously approved.

Zip Code Town Hall meetings – Member Ali followed up on the Zip Code Town Hall meetings that were held for residents in the following zip codes areas of 61605, 61602 & 61603, 61604 & 61606, 61625, 61614, 61615, 61525 & 61528. She reported the greatest amount of feedback and critique that came from the citizens on the north side was for code enforcement on liter, tall grass, and on the south side profiling, crime, and lighting.

Citizens Police Academy is anticipated to begin in the fall 2019.

Vacancies – Acting chair Zagardo noted there are still vacancies for one At-Large and one Under 25 representatives to serve on the committee.

Citizens Complaint – 2nd Quarterly Report/Diversity would be presented at the next meeting.

Chief Marion commented on police accountability. He stated that when he meets people in public or talk to people over the telephone about an officer(s) conduct and professionalism, etc., he encourage each of them to file a complaint and to let the Police Department investigate and was confident in the police complaint process, especially with police officers wearing their body worn cameras.

Chief Marion commented on his time on the committee, he noticed there was too much focus on negativity. The name of the committee is Police Community Relations and it should point towards Community and Police Relations; to put the community first and show the importance of community and police relations. He always stress to his police officers the importance to build community relations. He requested to share with the committee the list of ideas that the police department have done and other endeavors to build community police relations at the next meeting. He agreed that there is a distrust with police, but the advisory board need to come up with ideas on what would help. The advisory committee accepted his request.
Diversity Report – Chief Marion would present the 2019 Demographic Report at the next meeting. The report is also available on the City’s website.

Employment – There would be no hiring of police officers for the remainder of 2019. The Peoria Police Department have 10 slots reserved for the police academy January 2020. Letters of Conditional Offer of Employment were offered to 16 of the top candidates, and the must take the polygraph test, psychological test, and background check. Out of the 16 candidates, an estimated 62% were protected class and 56% minorities.

5th Resident Officer Home – Chief Marion reported the Build Peoria program is fully funded and started construction to build the 5th Resident Officer home at 1011 NE. Madison in the East Bluff area. The completion date anticipated the end of 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations for chair – Acting chair Zagardo opened the floor to accept nominations for chair. Members Burnside and Begner submitted their names for chair. Having no other names submitted for chair, acting chair Zagardo closed the floor to nominations.

Nominations for vice chair – Acting chair Zagardo opened the floor to accept nominations for vice-chair. Member Zagardo submitted her name, along with members Begner and King. Having no other names submitted for vice chair, acting chair Zagardo closed the floor to nominations.

Election - Member King motioned to table the election for chair and vice chair for the next meeting; seconded by member Jackson. Motion unanimously approved.

Citizens Complaint Quarterly Report would be presented at the next meeting.

CITIZEN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE
Ms. Carolyn Schuldt, citizen of Peoria, wanted to convey her thanks to Peoria’s police officers, firefighters, and paramedics for their services, and thanked the Advisory Committee for their efforts.

ADJOURNMENT – Acting chair Zagardo asked for a motion to adjourn. Member King motioned to adjourn the August 8, 2019 meeting; seconded by member Marion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

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Janice Zagardo, acting chair

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Loren Marion III, member

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Demario Boone, member