

Johns Hopkins University Police Accountability Board
Monday, October 17, 2022

Accountability Board members:

Noah Patton	Absent
Cynthia Gross	Present
Edward Kangethe	Present
Sonja Merchant-Jones	Absent
Doris Minor-Terrell	Present
Lorraine Dean	Present
P. Logan Weygandt	Present
Michael Wilkinson	Absent
Katie O’Conor	Present
Elise Favia	Present
Terri Massie-Burrell	Absent
Thomas Judge	Absent

Johns Hopkins Staff present:

1. Branville G. Bard, Jr.
2. Jarron Jackson
3. Liam Haviv
4. LaTicia Douglas
5. Jennifer Mielke
6. Ashley Costello (minutes)
7. Gus Sentementes (Livestream Technician)

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Edward Kangethe, JHPD accountability board member, on Monday, October 17, 2022, via Zoom. The meeting was broadcast live via toll-free call-in and on the [Accountability Board meetings live-stream webpage](#).

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of Monday, September 12, 2022, were proposed for approval. Cynthia Gross asked to include additional language from the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) discussion. Rianna Matthews-Brown reminded the Board that it was previously agreed upon that the minutes would reflect a high-level overview of the discussions and should not resemble a transcript. Additionally, meetings are recorded, posted on the website, and can be viewed at any time. Johns Hopkins staff will review the September minutes and incorporate additional dialogue.

A motion was made by Kangethe and seconded by Dean to postpone the approval of the September minutes to the November meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. A draft of the minutes will be posted on the website with a “draft” watermark.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

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Rodney Hill, Senior Advisor to the VP for Public Safety, reviewed the Town Hall slides, including areas of jurisdiction for the JHPD.

Discussion:

Q: Favia - JHPD must follow BPD policies, is the reverse true? This is of particular interest as it relates to amnesty from arrest for alcohol poisoning or drug overdose ("Calling in good faith" providing immunity for arrest when experiencing an overdose or similar event).

A: Hill – The MOU is an agreement, not a specific set of policies, which does not cover whether the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) will follow JHPD policies. MOU agreements are very common and exist throughout the state. We are unaware of any legislative movement on immunity questions at this time.

Q: Kangethe - Was there feedback from the community after the town halls?

A: Douglas - More than 200 comments have been submitted via email.

Matthews-Brown – Reminded the Board that 21CP will publish a feedback report.

Q: Dean – Please clarify the terms adjoining (next to/touching boundaries) vs. adjacent (nearby, but not touching boundaries).

A: Matthews-Brown - Guidance from the Attorney General's Office was referenced from May 2020 regarding meeting the legal standard for adjoining versus adjacent. However, not all board members have seen this guidance. It was recommended that this guidance be reshared with the board.

Bard - "Immediately adjacent" necessitates contiguous and is not open to interpretation. The MOU can be amended in the future, including clarifying areas of jurisdiction and justification for any expansion. There are currently no plans to expand the JHPD's jurisdiction outside campus areas.

Q: Dean – Where did the number 5 come from in the "hiring no more than five officers per year" limit?

Gross – What about retired police officers?

A: Bard & Hill - This limit was trying to address the concern of "stealing" candidates from the BPD. Retirees will be required to be separated from BPD for at least six months before they are eligible to apply to the JHPD. The hiring process will include a review of internal affairs files for those who are former employees of any police department.

Q: Kangethe – Regarding internal accountability processes, how will JHPD investigate JHU employees? Who would lead those investigations, and how would a conflict of interest be defined?

A: Bard – As a reminder, the MOU is not a policy document but a narrowly focused document. Policies on internal accountability will be developed with input from the board.

Q: Weygandt - Should it be included in the MOU that body-worn cameras are on all the time?

A: Bard – For the protection of victims and witnesses, it is not appropriate to always have cameras on. However, this would be part of the policies and procedures under technology.

Q: Dean - Will body-worn camera footage be available to the Board? How will this be shared with the community?

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A: Bard - There will be times when body-worn camera footage is made public. Footage will be shared with the City/State's Attorney if needed for charging an individual.

Q: O'Connor - Will officers hired from BPD be required to undergo the same training as employees without prior policing experience?

A: Bard – The State sets the minimum requirements for all police officers; therefore, the same conditions should be met for all hires. New officers would be required to have additional training that exceeds the State's threshold. Specifics will be included in the policy.

Q: Dean – Regarding the language around the fresh pursuit of a suspected offender, how can we ensure that “suspected offender” does not become the rationale for racial profiling?

A: Bard, Hill, & Matthews-Brown - The fresh pursuit language means that an officer is not required to stop if pursuing a suspect from a campus area onto non-JHU property/property outside of the jurisdictional boundaries. This language was pulled directly from the statute (Criminal Procedure Article, Title 5) and describes how the pursuit must meet the requirements for probable cause. Questions about this language should be referred to the statute. The board will be heavily involved in shaping policies to avoid/deter racial profiling.

Q: Dean - How long will feedback be received about the MOU?

A: Matthews-Brown – We will collect feedback to send to 21CP through November 19th.

Q: Gross – What will be done with the feedback?

A: Matthews-Brown - 21CP receives feedback weekly from JHU and is working on consolidating the comments. This will include community and City Council feedback, and we aim for 21CP to provide a report by early December. All questions submitted via email do not get a written response, but the website will be updated to reflect the themes of the questions. The Q & A on the website is a work in progress and is continually updated.

Feedback received at accountabilityboard@jhu.edu – presented by Dr. Lorraine Dean

Q: How many miles of public sidewalks, public streets, and alleys are within the MOU's areas of “primary patrol responsibility?”

A: Hill & Bard – The exact mileage is not known. Public sidewalks, parking areas, etc., are included under the legislature's direction. All calls would go to BPD, and JHPD would be included if the location is on campus property.

Q: Of your 100-person department, how many would be police officers?

A: Bard - The majority will be officers, but as a reminder, those officers are split into three shifts of 8 hours each across three campuses. There will not be an immediate full complement of officers.

Q: Where do you intend to store the department's weapons and ammunition?

A: Hill - The current plan is to contract with a gun range. Each officer will be responsible for their service weapon. Any excess weapons will be stored at the range.

Q: Why have you included a portion of Remington Avenue on your Homewood map that is not immediately adjacent to Hopkins property?

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A: Hill & Matthews-Brown - Remington property is included because it meets the definition of campus property per the terms of the statute. The legislature set campus-defined areas to include property that is:

1. Within the defined jurisdictional areas (as outlined on the maps)
2. Owned, leased, operated, or under the control of JHU
3. Used for educational/institutional purposes

More detailed maps will be emailed to the board when available. Feedback on the maps would be welcome.

Updates from the Communications Committee

There was a discussion regarding a proposal for board administrative support staff. Dean will distribute a proposal from Baltimore Tech Hub to the board for review and comments. Recommendations were sought on managing board e-mails, and one suggestion was to use auto messaging. The message would thank those who emailed and indicate a timeline for response (10 business days), although some responses may require input from the full Board and may need to be discussed during a meeting. There is currently an auto message which does not include a response timeline. Suggestions for email auto-response wording can be sent to Dean. Emails that require additional thought will be shared later via email.

Other topics discussed included the student advisory committee for public safety, which holds meetings between JH Public Safety and students. The website will also be updated to reflect the different layers of accountability and the groups intersecting with JH Public Safety.

Reminder from Dr. Bard: The University is moving forward with creating the JHPD, and feedback is collected to help ensure a moral, ethical, constitutional, and responsible police force. Feedback of all types was included in the legislative process.

Upcoming Meetings

Kangethe - How much advance notice does the Board need to give the Administration to plan the annual public forum?

Matthews-Brown – There is no minimum requirement, but a safe target is about one month.

Updates from Dr. Bard

Moving forward, Dr. Bard will announce agenda items for subsequent meetings during each meeting. For the November meeting agenda, we would like to include 1) preparing the board for policy review and 2) MOU Updates.

Next Steps

- More granular/detailed maps of the proposed patrol areas
- Updated Q & A section on the Accountability Board website
- Review of emails from the Communications Committee

Closing

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Gross made a motion to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. The motion was seconded by Logan Weygandt and met with unanimous approval.