

Municipal Police Training Committee

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Natick Parole Board

March 29, 2017

Call to Order

At 9:34AM, Chairman Jim Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order and greeted all present.

Attendees: Voting Members

Chairman Jim Hicks – Northeast Mass; Chief Brian Kyes – Mass Chiefs; Chief Scott Livingstone – Western Mass; Captain Matthew Roy – MSP; Lt. Mike Chapman – Boston; Sergeant Daniel Spas– MBTA; Jim O'Brien- AGO; Jennifer Queally- U/S.

Attendees: Advisory

Angela Davis – OGR; Jeffrey Scott –Parole; Richard Ryan –Parole; Kevin Keefe - Parole.

MPTC Staff

Marylou Powers, Joe Witkowski, Dan Zivkovich and Sheila Gallagher.

Guests

Jon Blum, Norman Charest, James Fay, Tom Fleming, Bruce Gelb, Edward Gincauskis, Paul Henderson, Kevin Hope, Chief Edward O'Leary, John O'Malley, Jerry O'Rourke, Charles Primack, Shannon Sullivan and Tom Turco.

Review/Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of February 15, 2017. A motion was made and seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice and there were two abstentions.

Police Standards and Training

The following requests were presented and approved by the Committee:

Temporary Waivers:

Kelly Colvin	Foxborough PD
Austin Gove	Holyoke PD
Timothy Sullivan	Tyngsborough

A motion was made to approve the three (3) temporary waivers as presented. There was a second and the motion passed by unanimous voice.

There were no requests for permanent exemptions and no requests for disciplinary hearings.

Open Discussion:

There were no items for open discussion. Captain Roy of the Massachusetts State Police thanked the Natick Police Department for assisting with the funeral of Trooper Matthew Daigle, who recently passed away.

Recruit Officer Training Updates

Boston: 70 recruits remain in week 15 and graduation is expected in June.

Boylston: No academy dates scheduled at this time.

Lowell: There is no class in session right now. The next class is scheduled for May 22, 2017.

SPMA: The 7th SPMA is in week twelve and 43 student officers remain. Graduation is scheduled for June 23, 2017.

NECC: Currently, the academy is in the 8th week with 48 student officers. Graduation is expected on July 14, 2017.

Plymouth: There are 42 recruits remaining in the 63rd ROC and expected graduation is April 14, 2017. The next class will start on June 5, 2017.

Randolph: There are 45 students in week 3 and graduation is expected on August 18, 2017.

Reading: Forty-three students will graduate on August 15, 2017.

Springfield: Currently in the process of background checks and hoping for a start date in June with 60 Springfield officers.

Transit: There are 48 recruits remaining in week 1, even though the class began with 51, and graduation is expected September 27, 2017.

WMASS: There are 39 students that remain in week 21, and graduation is expected for Friday, May 5, 2017. The next class is scheduled to begin on June 19, 2017.

Worcester: A class of 36 will begin on April 24, 2017.

Executive Director Report:

Status of Boylston Academy

ED Zivkovich announced that Laura Nichols was hired for the Boylston Program Coordinator II position. ED Zivkovich said that Laura previously worked for NEMLEC and will be a great addition to the team. Laura begins her position on April 18, 2017.

Distance Learning Class

The online suicide prevention and firearms classes are currently available on the distance learning web. The suicide prevention class is extensive and could be considered for an in-service topic.

New Reserve Instructor Training Online

The Professional Office of the Law Institute and Certification and Education (POLICE) is a new reserve training program based out of Tyngsborough. This program does not conflict with NERPI since it is offering evening classes during the week whereas NERPI's courses are offered on Saturdays. The MPTC will review POLICE's program. Any department or organization seeking to run a MPTC academy must adhere to MPTC guidelines, use MPTC recruit curriculum and MPTC certified instructors.

The POLICE program is beneficial for departments in the area since they will rent firearms to self-sponsored students attending the program. There is a stringent process for being accepted to the program. A chief will have to sponsor a student for admission. Before a student is accepted, POLICE will conduct a thorough interview.

Fitness Standards

The fitness study that was organized through Harvard University is wrapping up and is scheduled to have recommendations by June. Initially there was not sufficient data to finalize the assessments but they have enough data.

OGR Survey

The Committee discussed how it could determine the functions of reserves officers within the state. The Office of Grants and Research, (OGR) will distribute a survey to chiefs asking what functions reserves serve in their area. Hopefully, the survey will help with establishing what training should be required for reserves.

Chief Hicks asked how OGR can get departments to respond to the survey. Mass Chiefs and the MPTC will email the chiefs. ED Zivkovich said that the MPTC can call departments and will assist chiefs in filling out the forms for the survey if they fail to respond. The survey contains specific questions about specials and auxiliaries. ED Zivkovich said he would receive regular updates on who responds to the survey. Angela Davis from OGR indicated that OGR could micro target departments that do not participate in the survey. Chiefs will have a 2-3 week window to respond. Chief Hicks asked whether there are open-ended questions regarding terminology for auxiliaries, reserves and specials and whether they were armed.

CORI and Recruit Curriculum

The next issue the Committee considered was whether they should include CORI certification within the new curriculum. Currently, the recruit curriculum does not CORI certify recruits graduating from an academy. Ideally, most chiefs would like recruits to graduate from an academy without needing any additional training.

Tom Fleming said to receive CORI certification, academies would need access to terminals so recruits can log into the CJIS system. ED Zivkovich added that he would investigate logistically how an academy could utilize terminals for CORI certification. Tom Fleming mentioned that it is critical for recruits to know the legal ramifications associated with CJIS.

Update on Recruit Curriculum Project

ED Zivkovich provided an update on the recruit curriculum project. About nineteen (19) months ago, FORCE CONCEPTS was hired to overhaul the recruit curriculum. According to ED Zivkovich, FORCE CONCEPTS has developed a program that incorporates ethics and education from an adult training police officer perspective.

Jon Blum announced to the Committee he would like to test drive the curriculum in August at the Randolph recruit academy. Jon expects that the core part of the curriculum will be completed and ready for the Committee to review by July 2017. There were numerous subject matter experts that wrote the curriculum to match the job task analysis. The curriculum is divided into volumes that include ethics, procedural justice, law and criminal investigation. Additionally, the new curriculum may result in a reduction from 920 to 700 hours.

Old Business

Out of state applicants for reserves

Marylou Powers asked the Committee whether reserve officers from another state need work experience to be employed as a part time officer in Massachusetts. Marylou received a request from a Rhode Island officer who graduated from the Rhode Island full-time academy in December and is working for TF Green. Apart from the training the officer received out of state, he would be required to take the orientation program in Massachusetts before he can work here. The Committee has never considered whether officers who graduated from a full-time academy out of state and want to work as a part time officer in Massachusetts need work experience.

ED Zivkovich mentioned that officers who want to work in Massachusetts after living out of state are required to complete an orientation program as well as provide a resume and certificate of graduation from a full-time academy. Chief Livingstone asked whether the chiefs are responsible for determining how much experience a reserve officer needs. Marylou Powers added that in order to qualify for a 270-day waiver, reserve officers need 1 year of experience. The Committee discussed how the terminology regarding part time officers, reserves and auxiliaries is problematic. Chief Hicks said that the CMRs were changed to include experience. AAG O'Brien explained that the requirement for 2 years of experience for out-of-state fulltime officers who want an exemption was implemented to discourage academy hopping. Marylou added that at the time, the MPTC did not have as many active academies, and many instate residents were going out of state to attend recruit training and then returning to Massachusetts, thus circumventing the need to attend a Mass academy.

Chief Kyes relayed that this is a complicated issue and that many of the out of state officers are missing approximately 100 hours of Massachusetts specific topics. There was more discussion and it was determined that a vote would be necessary if the Committee wanted to required that reserves from out of state would also need experience.

A motion was made to add a two (2) year work experience requirement for reserves similar to full-time officers. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous voice.

Funding

The House budget will be released on April 12. Chief Kyes announced that Mass Chiefs have proposed an initiative to provide a continuous revenue stream to the MTPC. There is a proposal to add a one dollar fee to rental car contracts throughout the state. If the bill passes, a generous revenue stream could be created for police training. The nexus to police are that police officers are monitoring the roads and need to enforce the laws of the road.

2018 In-Service Training Topics

Chief Hicks asked Committee members if they received any feedback from their regions for specific topics. There is a forty (40) hour mandatory in-service training requirement for TY 2017-18 that includes CPR/1st responder; although the MPTC will only be offering CPR as a local option.

Below is a list of tentative topics that the Committee is considering for TY 2017-18 in-service training. The Committee highlighted the topics below as strong contenders for in-service training:

1. Legal Updates (6 hours)
2. Domestic Violence and High Risk Assessment (3 hours)
3. Marijuana (3 hours)
4. Police Legitimacy (3 hours)
5. TIMS (3 hours)
6. Defensive Tactics/Use of Force (3 hours)

ED Zivkovich stated that Lt Ryan from Swansea mentioned that police interactions with people who have mental illness would be a good refresher training because it is necessary for accreditation every 3 years. Another topic that was mentioned concerned death notifications. Chief O'Leary who is the liaison for highway safety proposed the ARIDE class that would be helpful in light of the passage of question 4. ARIDE is a two-day class that costs approximately \$2700 to run. The MPTC does receive money from OGR for training and the DRE coordinator, Don Decker, thought there would be sufficient money to run a series of ARIDE classes that would meet the current demands for the training.

Trooper Weldon informed ED Zivkovich that it may be challenging to condense the Work zone Safety and TIMS program. The TIMS course is a multidisciplinary training. It is possible that TIMS could be offered throughout the state.

Chief Livingstone said he is receiving some pushback from the chiefs in his area. U/S Queally stated that many topics are so compelling and should be offered as trainings. However, U/S Queally relayed that legislators often respond to compelling topics by passing legislation that mandates a particular topic for training which she tries to discourage. There was more discussion about topics but it was tabled for the April meeting. Also, the Committee will have to determine what trainings should be required for chiefs.

Department of Correction

Tom Turco from the Department of Correction appeared before the Committee to ask how the DOC could meet the MPTC standards for firearms. The DOC has firearms ranges in West Bridgewater and Gardner. ED Zivkovich said if you have a cadre of instructors, potentially a bridge course could be developed. Per MPTC standards, officers need to fire 100 rounds of ammunition a year to qualify and in two (2) trainings on separate days. The trainings require that officers should fire a minimum of 50 rounds of ammunition. Chief Hicks added that there are different ways to satisfy the requirements. Some departments use MILO as part of the requirement. The key aspect of this training is that the officer must have a weapon in hand. No vote was necessary for this discussion.

New Business

The May meeting will coincide with the memorial in Springfield and will take place on May 17, 2017.

U/S Queally announced that Secretary Bennett is putting together a task force to examine and investigate the possibility of a POST system in Massachusetts.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **April 25, 2017, 9:30 AM** at the Randolph Police Academy.

Adjournment

The motion was made, seconded and passed by unanimous voice at 11:45 AM to adjourn.