

**Municipal Police Training Committee
Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2022**

Call to Order

Chief James Hicks called the monthly meeting of the Municipal Police Training Committee to order at 10:09 AM. Chief Hicks welcomed the Committee members and guests. This meeting was recorded and broadcast over Teams.

Attendees: Voting Members

Secretary Terrence Reidy	Present
Chief James Hicks	Present
AAG Jennifer Cotter	Absent
Chief Frank Frederickson	Present
Chief Jennifer Gundersen	Present
Chief Brian Kyes	Absent
Chief Kelly Nee	Present
Chief Thomas O'Donnell	Present
Superintendent Winifred Cotter	Present
Superintendent Richard Sullivan	Absent
Sheriff Kevin Coppinger	Present
Sheriff Chris Donelan	Absent
Deputy Supt. Lanita Cullinane	Present
Officer Joseph Vieira	Absent
Maj. Daniel McGinn	Absent

MPTC Staff

ED Robert Ferullo, James O'Brien, John Melander, Sheila Gallagher, Andrea Nardone, Shane Rodriguez, Lia Avelino Ford, Dori-Ann Ference, Denise Flagg, Jay Gribaudo, Tanya Hardiman, Ariel Perez, and Lara Thomas.

Guests

Aram Goshgarian, Angelo Gomez, Jr., Chad Hunter, Casey McGrath, Beth Halloran, Thomas Glynn, Alicia Girgenti-Malone, Jeffrey Scott, Andrew Turco, and Yessenia Gomez.

Review/Approval of Minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2022 Committee meeting. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Police Standards and Training

The Standards Subcommittee did not meet today for lack of a quorum.

Temporary Waivers

The Committee considered the request of West Newbury Police Department to extend the temporary waiver of Officer Emmanuel Terreo until the beginning of the Boylston Academy in June 2022.

There was a motion to accept the temporary waiver of Officer Terreo until June 2022. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

During the meeting it was learned that the start date of the next Boylston Academy had been pushed to July.

There was a motion to amend the motion granting the temporary waiver of Officer Terreo to extend the waiver until the start of the next Boylston Academy. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Permanent Exemptions for Bridge Academy Graduates

The Committee was provided with a list of names of officers who have completed the Bridge Academy requirements and have accumulated at least 2,400 hours of work experience as a law enforcement officer. The first seven officers were granted permanent exemptions from attending the full academy at the January meeting.

A motion was made to approve officers numbered 8 – 16 on the list for a permanent exemption from attending the full academy. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Permanent Exemptions

The Committee considered proposed language for a standard to be applied to SSPOs who have a warrant from the Massachusetts State Police who are looking to enroll in the Bridge Academy but never completed basic training (academy or reserve) approved by the MPTC. The standard would require such SSPOs to be considered individually by the Standards Subcommittee and the full Committee. Draft language for the standard was provided to the Standards Subcommittee last month for its consideration.

If approved, it is believed that this standard would currently apply to between 20-30 SSPOs. There was discussion about whether the adoption of the standard would also apply to other individuals, such as harbormasters or sheriff department employees.

The Committee members were provided with a copy of the draft language. Comments will be directed to Jim O'Brien and brought to the attention of the Standards Subcommittee when they discuss the language at their next meeting.

The Committee considered three requests for permanent exemptions:

Kevin Leonard	Simmons University
Jonathan Lent	Massport
Carlos Camacho	NECC

Committee members were provided with information about each of the requests. Each request was considered and voted on individually.

There were motions to accept the permanent exemption for Kevin Leonard, Jonathan Lent, and Carlos Camacho. The motions were each seconded and votes were taken. The motions passed unanimously.

The motion passed unanimously for all three applicants.

The remaining requests for permanent exemptions were not considered by the Committee. These matters will be on the agenda next month after the Standards Subcommittee has had the opportunity to consider the requests and make recommendations to the Committee.

Update on Disciplinary Appeals Hearings

There were no disciplinary appeals hearings this month. There is an instructor revocation appeal that needs to be scheduled.

Executive Director's Report

A calendar of the specialized trainings that had been held in January and February was provided to the Committee members.

Recruit Officer Training Update

The Committee was provided with demographic information on each academy .

Boston Next class: April 26, 2022, with 140 student officers.

Boylston In session with 39 student officers. Graduation anticipated on May 17, 2022. Next class: July 25, 2022, with 30 available seats.

Cambridge In session with 24 student officers. Graduation anticipated June 24, 2022. Next class: January 2023.

Cape Cod Next class: February 21, 2022, with 64 student officers.

FSU Next class: May 16, 2022, with 28 student officers.

Lowell Next class: May 2, 2022, with 55 student officers.

MBTA In session with 30 student officers. Graduation anticipated on July 20, 2022.

Merrimack In session with 15 student officers. Graduation anticipated on April 1, 2022.

NECC In session with 57 student officers. Graduation anticipated on June 24, 2022. Next class: April 18, 2022 with 38-48 student officers. This class is not yet posted.

Plymouth In session with 52 student officers. Graduation is scheduled for February 18, 2022. Next class: April 4, 2022. This class is full and there is a waitlist.

Quinsigamond In session. Graduation anticipated on May 27, 2022.

Randolph In session with 2 classes. Next class: September 6, 2022.

Reading In session with 48 student officers. Next class: August 1, 2022, with 48 seats.

Springfield In session with 43 student officers .

SPMA Running back-to-back RTTs

Western MA In session with 49 student officers. Graduation is anticipated on April 8, 2022. Next class: July 2022. This class is full with a waitlist.

Next class: June 6, 2022, with 48 student officers and a wait list.

Worcester Next class: April 2022.

NECC is now being operated by the MPTC. The next Western Mass class is expected to be in the new Holyoke facility. The start date may be postponed so that it can begin in the new facility. If any delay is beyond a few weeks, other alternatives will be considered. There is the potential to run 2 academies simultaneously at the Holyoke site. It is anticipated that Cooper tests and practices can be run at the Holyoke facility as well.

Some academy classes are not yet posted in Acadis because we are working with POST regarding certification requirements and looking to have many of those requirements met during the academy enrollment process. This process should be finalized soon.

The Bridge Academy currently has 814 officers enrolled. Approximately 200 officers have opted out of the Bridge Academy. The capacity for skills classes was discussed. There are 105 skills classes scheduled through June. Additional sites to accommodate the EVOC classes are needed. There were 440 empty seats in skills classes last quarter. Many classes are running below capacity; however, we cannot run classes with less than 6 participants. The Bridge Team is encouraging enrolled students to complete the skills classes sooner rather than later.

There is concern that there are many officers who are eligible to attend the Bridge Academy A-H and who must complete the training by June 30, 2022 who have yet to enroll. The Bridge Team has been reaching out periodically to departments advising of the April 1, 2022 enrollment deadline.

Staffing Update

We currently have 8 open positions and are working with Human Resources to fill them.

Open Discussion

There is some confusion about the classes required for instructor certification. Any questions about this should be directed to Andrea Nardone.

Old Business

Police Reform

The joint working group between the MPTC and POST continues to meet regularly. The Committee was provided with information about the proposed certification process. The process would incorporate many of the minimum certification requirements in the enrollment process to the academies, including attestations by the hiring agency. The MPTC would collect the information but would not review it. The information would be kept for review by POST. The MPTC is also working with POST to coordinate the collection of necessary information for currently enrolled student officers but the goal is to collect this information at the beginning of the process moving forward.

Committee members were provided with documents that were approved by POST at its monthly meeting on February 15, 2022 regarding officers who need more time to complete training requirements. POST will be issuing conditional recertifications to officers who meet certain criteria. The Committee raised some concerns about the limitations placed on officers during the pendency of the conditional recertification. These concerns will be brought back to the working group for further discussion.

Unique Law Enforcement Agencies

POST approved a document giving guidance on which agencies fall within their authority at their February meeting. This document was provided to the Committee.

Update on Working Groups

Campus Police Training Programs Working Group: ED Ferullo will help facilitate a meeting between POST and MACLEA.

Academy and Building Review Working Group: ED Ferullo has a construction meeting in Lynnfield every Thursday.

Sheriff's Training Programs Working Group: MPTC staff continues to work on these issues.

SSPO Warrant Process

MPTC staff, POST and the State Police worked collaboratively to create a streamlined process to issue/renew SSPO warrants. There was a backlog of 16 officers, but many of them have been resolved. The more complicated applications are being further reviewed.

New Business

Merrimack College Program

Merrimack College requested permission to continue their police academy with a class beginning on September 1, 2022.

There was a motion to allow Merrimack College to continue the academy program under the oversight of MPTC staff. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Quinsigamond Community College Program

Quinsigamond Community College requested permission to continue their full-time evening police academy with a class beginning on September 12, 2022. There was some concern about the number of student officers who were not able to complete the program due to various personal obligations.

There was a motion to approve Quinsigamond Community College Police Academy for an additional pilot class and to report back to the Committee on their progress. The motion was seconded and vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

In-Service Training Topics for Training Year 2023

Committee members were encouraged to reach out to their constituents to identify potential topics for the 2023 in-service training program. Committee members were also asked to determine whether departments would prefer in-person training or remote. This item will remain on the agenda for the March meeting.

Adjournment

Dori-Ann Ferrence has officially retired after 37 years of service to the MPTC. Chief Hicks and Chief Ferullo both thanked Dori for her exemplary service and assistance in growing the MPTC to where we are now.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:38 PM. The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2022.