



CITY OF BOSTON
OFFICE OF POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY
Evandro C. Carvalho, Executive Director

CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

In-Person Meeting | 2201 Washington Street, Suite 102, Boston, MA 02119

Call to Order

Samuel Harold (Chair) called the meeting to order at 10:24 a.m. and provided an introduction regarding meeting rules and public comment submission.

Members Present:

Samuel Harold
Joshua Dankoff
Amaury Perez

Quorum established

Review of Previous Session Minutes

The Board reviewed the October 22, 2025 meeting minutes.

Motion: To approve October 22, 2025 meeting minutes.

Moved by: Joshua Dankoff

Seconded by: Amaury Perez

Vote: Samuel Harold (yes), Amaury Perez (yes), Joshua Dankoff (yes)

Result: Motion approved



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Upcoming Policies for Subcommittee to Address

The Subcommittee discussed BRIC as a topic for the next Civilian Review Board meeting and recommended that OPAT staff contact the Boston Police Department to obtain information regarding anticipated policy changes over the next six months so the Civilian Review Board may review forthcoming updates.

Chair Harold suggested reaching out to Superintendent Dahill, the BPD liaison, for this purpose.

The Subcommittee expressed the need for clarity regarding the BPD policy update and review process, and requested that OPAT's Deputy Director discuss the Subcommittee's inquiries.

Members requested clarification regarding informal communications between BPD officers and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

December 4, 2025 Letter from Commissioner Cox

Members discussed the December 4, 2025 letter issued by Commissioner Cox.

Members expressed that the letter appeared vague and did not clearly articulate the Commissioner's legal standing beyond references to Massachusetts General Laws and collective bargaining agreements, which appeared to be presented as taking precedence over OPAT's ordinance and cooperation with OPAT.

There were concerns that the letter did not acknowledge OPAT as an independent civilian oversight entity.



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Members discussed concerns that the letter implied CRB findings should be reviewed by Internal Affairs, which is inconsistent with the intended oversight structure.

Members also discussed how the letter failed to recognize the intent behind the creation of OPAT and the CRB – namely, establishing accountability outside of the department – and that it referenced potential conflicts with law and collective bargaining agreements without citing specific provisions.

Members contemplated whether continued written correspondence was the most effective approach or whether alternative methods should be considered.

Findings, Transparency, and Information Sharing

Chair Harold stated that the purpose of CRB review is to determine whether officer conduct presents concerns and to issue findings that should stand independently, similar to how the POST Commission publishes misconduct findings.

The Deputy Director explained that POST primarily addresses officer decertification but that sharing sustained CRB findings could be explored.

There was a discussion on how although the POST Commission does not explicitly reference civilian oversight, Internal Affairs divisions are required to submit sustained findings to POST.

Chair Harold suggested that sustained CRB findings be shared with the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, particularly given existing case backlogs in the DA's office, to support transparency and informed prosecutorial decision-making.

Josh Dankoff stated that both information sharing and institutional adherence should be goals.



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Motion: To recommend that the full Civilian Review Board consider a proposal for OPAT to share sustained CRB findings with the POST Commission and the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, with a request that findings be publicly posted and considered in prosecutorial decision making.

Moved by: Samuel Harold

Seconded by: Joshua Dankoff

Vote: Samuel Harold (yes), Amaury Perez (yes), Joshua Dankoff (yes)

Result: Motion approved

Internal Affairs Oversight Panel Process

There was a brief discussion about IAOP findings and how the IAOP process is separate and distinct from the CRB process. The Chair noted that both officers and civilians may file appeals with IAOP.

Draft Letter to Commissioner Cox (January 18, 2026)

The Subcommittee reviewed a draft letter dated January 18, 2026, addressing concerns raised in the Commissioner's December 4, 2025 correspondence.

The purpose of the letter was to document why CRB findings do not require review by Internal Affairs.

Members noted improvement in BPD response times in accordance with the 45-day response requirement.

Michael Berger incorporated revisions based on Subcommittee feedback, which will be reflected in the finalized letter.

Members emphasized that the letter should be written in clear, accessible language for the public and should not take a defensive tone, as OPAT authority is established by ordinance.



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Recess

The meeting recessed at 11:45 AM and reconvened at 12:00 PM.

Adoption of Draft Letter to Commissioner Cox

Motion: To adopt the revised draft letter and forward it to the full Civilian Review Board for consideration.

Moved: Joshua Dankoff

Seconded: Sam Harold

Vote: Samuel Harold (yes), Joshua Dankoff (yes), Amaury Perez (yes)

Result: Motion Passed

South Bay / Shacoby Kenny

Chair Harold raised discussion regarding a potential public statement concerning the death of Shacoby Kenny on December 8, 2025, while in custody at the Suffolk County House of Correction. It was noted that an active investigation remains ongoing and recommended that a discussion be deferred to the full CRB Board. The Subcommittee proposed that if the matter was not addressed at the upcoming Commission meeting, it be brought back to the Civilian Review Board at the following meeting.

Motion: To table discussion of the draft statement pending further Commission action.

Moved: Joshua Dankoff

Seconded: Samuel Harold

Vote: Samuel Harold (yes), Joshua Dankoff (yes), Amaury Perez (yes)



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Result: Motion Passed

Topics for Future Meetings

- Social media surveillance policies
- BRIC
- Gang database policies
- Public records requests
- Conflict of interest policies within BPD
- Youth engagement and succession planning
- BPD youth engagement policies

Meeting Schedule

The next Policy Subcommittee meeting was proposed for:

- April 15, 2026
- Rain Date: April 29, 2026
- Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Samuel Harold

Seconded: Amaury Perez

Vote: Samuel Harold (yes), Joshua Dankoff (yes), Amaury Perez (yes)

Meeting Adjourned: 12:58 PM

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by OPAT Staff