

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners

Date of Meeting: May 24, 2018 – 3:00 PM

Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Avenue, Detroit, MI 482269

Chairperson Lisa Carter called the BOPC meeting to order at 3:00 PM (May 24, 2018)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Lisa Carter, Chairperson (7:13 PM)	Yes	
Eva Dewaelsche, Vice Chairperson	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown	Excused	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Conrad Mallett, Jr.	Excused	
Jim Holley	Excused	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	7	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for May 24, 2018.

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:
Thursday, May 17, 2018**

Chairperson Carter said, Welcome, Good Afternoon. I am Police Commissioner Lisa Carter, I represent District #6. I am also the Chairperson for the Board of Police Commissioners and will be conducting our meeting today. Commissioner Jim Holley is out of town and unable to attend today's meeting. Commissioners Darryl Brown and Conrad Mallett has also asked for an excused absences. On behalf of the Board, for those in the attending audience, thank you for joining us at today's Board meeting. For people viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for viewing our meeting on your cable channel.

INVOCATION: for the invocation we have invited the Detroit Police Chaplin Corp, Chaplin Amos W. Bush, Sr.

- Business Items: (1) Approval of the Agenda, (2) Approval of the Minutes for April 26, 2018
- Introduction of Commissioners
- Introduction of Elected Officials, VIPs, civic leaders or their representatives
- Introduction of BOPC staff and DPD staff,

BOPC Officers Report: (Lisa Carter) said, On behalf of the Board, I want to express our concern and support for fallen and injured officers and their families. Our Board receives a weekly report from the Department listing injured officers. I would ask the Chief during his remarks to provide us with any additional information related to injured and fallen officers.

The Board of Police Commissioners meets every week except for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday periods. We meet at Police Headquarters in regular session, 3 weeks in the month on Thursdays at 3:00 PM. We also meet in the community every 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. The Board of Police Commissioners exist to provide civilian oversight for the work of the Detroit Police Department. As a Board, we receive and investigate non-criminal citizens' complaints, monitor the operations of the Department and work with the Mayor and the Chief of Police to make or modify police policy. Our objective is the same as the city of Detroit, to provide for the best use of your tax dollars to improve on the quality of life within our city. As a Board, we bring a unique perspective to policing, the eye and the viewpoint of civilians. The principle of civilian oversight is as old and as important as all of the founding principles in our democracy. Separation of powers between and within government allows for accountability, transparency, rights to appeal and citizen control. These principles are important nationally as well as locally.

I would like to call to the attention of the Board several important items. On Friday, June 8th and Saturday, June 9th the Board will convene its annual training session. This training session is an opportunity for the Board to fellowship, address operational issues and measure our progress over the year. This session will be focused on the Board's Charter mandated responsibility and how they intersect with the Police Department. We will also have a special session on Police Authorized Towing. This session will be organized to give background information to some of our new Board members and will track sufficient actions by the Board on Police Authorized Towing. The training program will start at 12:00 Noon on June 8th and have a half-day session. We will also have a full day session on Saturday. I would ask each member of the Board to mark your calendar and plan on attending the 2018 Board training session. I am sure that this session will be as productive and informative as the session of the previous year.

I also want to share with the general public an important clarification. The City of Detroit's Assessors Office recently mailed to commercial property owners of Detroit an important letter announcing the reappraisal of all commercial property. The letter was incorrectly put on the letterhead of the Board of Police Commissioners. Obviously, we are not involved in property appraisals. However, this letter is important and you should read and follow the directions in the letter. I believe that there is a June 30, 2018 deadline imposed for commercial property owners to return some important information back to the City's Assessor Office. Commissioners, I have requested that a copy of this letter be placed in your Board package, so that you will have an example of the printing error and can help commercial property owners respond to the City's informational request before the June 30, 2018 deadline.

Additionally, according to recent news releases former Commander Leach and another officer has been charged by the Wayne County Prosecutor surrounding an incident which occurred on St Patrick's Day. The press accounts indicated that the Department will be seeking the Board's approval of a request for suspension without pay for Lieutenant Leach. I understand this request has just arrived. Chief, if you would like to share any information on this subject, please do so under your report. We will schedule a closed session in the next week or so to take up this matter.

On our agenda today is one presentation on Ceasefire. The CeaseFire program was originally organized in Boston in 1995 as a gang-violence prevention program. The basic goals of the program was to attack the trafficking of illicit guns and set up a series of alternatives to gang culture. As these programs multiplied across the country, we had the strong involvement of the clergy, educational and job development alternative programs, and naturally law enforcement at all levels of government. I hope our presentation today will identify our local accomplishments and show why data driven programs with law enforcement and community outreach can be effective. I also hope that the presentation will provide information to the Board on the recently expanded program wherein the Department has invested additional staff and resources. I encourage the Department to discuss any issues and concerns as the Department is seeking to expand the footprint of the program across the city. Ultimately, the issue is does this type of prevention program work? And if so, how can we support it and make it a central part of local law enforcement activity.

Later in the meeting, we will have oral communications from the audience. I remind you, if you would like to speak to the Board, please make sure you print your name on a speaker's card. Cards are located in the back on the table or can be obtained by seeing Mr. Robert Brown. Mr. Brown will need your card before the beginning of public comments. I will caution everyone, we will be enforcing our 2 minute speaking privilege and ask for your cooperation in making our meetings timely and productive.

Resolutions: None

Commissioner Willie Bell moved the resolution honoring 30 year of service of **Inspector Daniel L. Allen** to the Detroit Police Department.

Second, **Commissioner Davis**

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

COP Police Report: Assistant Chief of Police Arnold Williams reported that crime is continuing to trend downward. Assistant Chief Williams reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending May 20, 2018. AC Williams reported Homicides percentage change between 2016 and 2017, -18% decrease in Homicides, Sexual Assaults 33% increase, Robbery -16% decrease, Carjacking -2% decrease, Aggravated Assaults -5% decrease, non-fatal shootings -23% decrease, Burglary -25% decrease, Larceny -0% decrease, Stolen Vehicle -22% decrease and Part 1 offenses -11% decrease. AC Williams reported on several events including the Women in Blue program sponsored by the Public Safety Foundation, the Graduation of Class D and E and June 8th Graduation of the Wayne State University Police Leadership Academy. AC Williams also acknowledged the recent charging by the Wayne County Prosecutor of Lieutenant Timothy Leach and Detective Person. William indicated that these charges are not reflective of the entire Police Department. **Commissioner William Davis** indicated that he has received several calls from citizens who indicate a service fee of \$7.00 is being charged at the 4th Police Precinct for use of the ATM machines. AC

Williams indicated that these machine are not controlled by the Department, but he would look into the high fee being charged. Commissioner **Elizabeth Brooks** request an update as to any collaborative efforts between the Police Department and other agencies including the Detroit Public Schools to protect children as they travel between school and home. **Commissioner Eva Dewaelsche** asked about the deployment of officers in the schools and their relationships with the Neighborhood Police Officers (NPOs). Commissioner Lisa Carter reminded the audience that as the Department reaches out to protect Children that this is a good time to encourage citizens to join police sponsored community activities including citizen patrols. **Commissioner Shirley Burch** also encouraged neighborhood involvement with the police and asked about an update on the Chief's Committee on Human Trafficking. **Commissioner Brooks** also indicated to the Board the existence of Peggy's Place associated with COTS that provide service to women who are victims of human trafficking. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** also added the name of Alternatives for Girls operating in southwest Detroit also provide service to victims of human trafficking. **Commissioner Davis** indicated that the Board should do public service announcements on specific topics and inquired of the Board Secretary, if the BOPC had plans for the same. Board Secretary Hicks indicated that the Board is working toward this result and that we have a contract under consideration by the Detroit City Council to produce and air PSA's.

Presentations to the Board: (A) CeaseFire – Director Trisha Stein

(A) CeaseFire Director Trisha Stein outlined the goals of CeaseFire and discussed the funding associated with the program. The funding partners included Department of Justice, and the Hudson-Webber Foundation. Director Stein indicated that the basic approach of CeaseFire is a focused deterrence strategy to disrupt group dynamics and reduce gun violence. Director Stein indicated the program is in 7 precincts and is projected to go city-wide by 2019 (see below).

Current and Projected Dates	Locations
August 2015	Precincts 5 & 9
June 2016	Precincts 6, 8 & 12
January 2018	Precincts 4 & 7
July 2018	Precincts 11
January 2019	Precincts ALL – City Wide

CeaseFire Outreach Team also discussed some of the interactive elements of the program including promoting conversations with young people, conducting custom notifications with law enforcement agencies and past offenders, responding to shooting scenes and conducting Candlelight Vigils and Peace walks to support families. The CeaseFire Team also indicated that their services of support reflects a comprehensive model designed to work with partners to provide education, job, housing, legal and other referrals. Keith Bennett of the Flip the Script program discussed some other outreach conversations.

BOCP Standing Committee Reports: None.

Report from the Board Secretary, Mr. Hicks reported on three items including a SWOP for Lt. Timothy Leach and a Letter from the City of Detroit Assessor's Office that had been mistakenly printed on BOPC letterhead.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements: The next meeting of the BOPC is Thursday, May 31, 2018 at Police Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI at 3:00 PM and the next Community Meeting, scheduled for 6:30 PM is at Adams-Butzel Recreation Center, 10500 Lyndon Avenue, at 6:30 PM. Detroit, MI 48238.

Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:

Ms. Faith acknowledged to positive work of the Board and Department. **Bernice Smith** reminded the Board of several police engagements within the past week. **Eric Blount** indicated he was hopeful given the report by CeaseFire, but was concern with program that only indicate “put the guns down these programs suggest that black people are inherently criminal which reeks of racism.” Blount suggested that we support legislation like D-15 which seeks to set minimum wages at a decent livable rate which would impact crime. Blount indicated he hoped the CeaseFire program would address issues of institutional racism and commented on two recent incidents including a shooting at a gas station and a Coney Island restaurant. Blount continued that it is hard to ask young black men to put down guns when they are being gunned down. Blount concluded by indicating that he objected to a statement made by one of the officers surrounding the gas station shooting who indicated that Detroit has such

great race-police relations when there is no evidence for such a statement. **Kristal Fields** addressed the Board on the East Jefferson Avenue Detroit Rides Together Project. The project area is E. Jefferson from Lakewood to Rivard. The project will include public improvement to the roadway to accommodate bike lanes and other safety design elements.

Commissioner Bell moved that the Board of Police Commissioners meeting be adjourned.

Second, **Commissioner Davis**

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Adjournment 4:25 PM.