



**Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: January 4, 2018 – 3:00 PM**

Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, 3rd Floor, Detroit, MI 48226

Chairperson Lisa Carter called the BOPC meeting to order at 3:10 PM (January 4, 2018)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Lisa Carter, Chairperson	Yes	
Eva Dewaelsche, Vice Chairperson	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Conrad Mallett, Jr.	Yes	
Derrick Sanders	Yes	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	10	

Presiding BOPC Officer and BOPC Chair, Lisa Carter: Welcome: Good Afternoon. I am Police Commissioner Lisa Carter, Chairperson for the Board. I also represent District #6. On behalf of the Board, thank you for attending today's Board meeting, the first meeting of the new calendar year 2018. Welcome to our returning and new Board members. In Detroit, starting in 1973, the citizens had the wisdom to state their resolve for citizen control over our Police Department as part of our democratic governance process. In our 2012 Detroit City Charter, our citizens re-affirmed civil control and expanded the Police Board to include 7 members elected by districts. Today marks the second time that Police Commissioners from each district have been elected to service in the role of civilian oversight for the Police Department. Today, we have four newly elected Police Commissioners to join with veteran Commissioners. Of special note, Commissioner Conrad Mallett served as a appointment to the Board, and now a elected member of the Board. We are also hopeful that later this month the Mayor will forward to the Detroit City Council an additional appointment that will bring our body to full complement, 11 members.

Today, we have asked Detroit City Clerk, Janice Winfrey to administer the oath of office to our new Board. In the interest of time, I hope that we can swear-in the entire body for the 2018-2021 session. The swearing-in will be followed by welcoming remarks from Commissioners. I would ask the members to be brief in their remarks as we have 10 Commissioners all eager to address the audience.

After the swearing-in, we will have an abbreviated business meeting wherein we will take up several important actions.

- (1) We need to comply with the Michigan Open Meeting Act and approve a schedule of meetings for the calendar year.
- (2) I have distributed sub-committee assignment. Please see your package.

- (3) We have a request from the Chief of Police for two suspensions of police officers without pay for action under new business.
- (4) We will not have any committee reports or a report from the Secretary of the Board. For incoming communication, please see the list on the Board agenda.
- (5) We will have oral comments from the audience at the end of the meeting, so if you would like to address the Board, please see Mr. Brown for a speaker's card. Again, please limit your remarks to 2 minutes.
- (6) We also have some refreshments in the outside lobby area and hope to have an opportunity to exchange with citizens, members of the Department and all of our fellow Commissioners.
- (7) I would also like to indicate part of today's program will include a song of unity performed by Ms. Tiffany Stewart, who is also a member of our investigative staff here at the Commission.
- (8) We are also asking for the Board, the Departments personnel and the audience to join us in an invocation. Copies of the invocation are available and it will also be projected on the screens in the front of the room.

With these adjustments, I want to introduce Detroit Police Chief James E. Craig and acknowledge his attendance. I want to remind each of you that we still have fallen and injured officers that remain in our hearts as heroes.

Presiding BOPC Officer and BOPC Chair, Lisa Carter asked **Rev. Louis Forsythe, II, Pastor**, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church to lead the audience in a public invocation.

INVOCATION BY BOARD, DEPARTMENT AND AUDIENCE

Presiding BOPC Officer and BOPC Chair, Lisa Carter asked each Commissioner to address the audience and provide any background information or insights into their motivation as Commissioners. Each Commissioner address the audience, recognized members of their community/district and discussed their insights about police oversight and community engagement.

Presiding BOPC Officer and BOPC Chair, Lisa Carter introduced **Detroit City Clerk Janice Winfrey** who administered the Oath of Office to the entire Board. Each member reciting aloud the words of the Oath and responding in the affirmative. Detroit City Clerk Janice Winfrey declared each member as official members of the Board of Police Commissioner.

Presiding BOPC Officer and BOPC Chair, Lisa Carter returned the meeting to regular order.

The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for January 4, 2018.

The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:
Thursday, December 14, 2017

COP Police Report: Chief of Police James E. Craig reported on crime continuing to trend downward. Craig reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending December 31, 2017. Craig reported Homicides percentage change between 2016 and 2017 of -9% decrease, non-fatal shootings -19% decrease and carjacking -41% decrease, all figures are over the past 2-years. Craig attributed the downward trend to DPD's ceasefire program and expansions in the Greenlight Initiative.

Commissioner Dewaelsche asked the Chief to provide the Board and audience with a history of the Greenlight Initiative which has grown to more than 250 locations. The Chief also indicated that the objective for 2018 is to grow the program to 400 locations. Chief Craig also reported on the untimely death of active duty officer **Ellis Bernard**, on restrictive duty, formerly working narcotics.

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. BOPC 2018 Calendar of Meetings

Motion in accordance with the Michigan Open Meeting Act to approve the 2018 Calendar of Meetings for the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners (Calendar includes, dates, location and subject matters for calendar year 2018).

Motion: Bell

Second: Sanders

VOTE: Yes = 10

No = 0

Abst.= 0

MOTION APPROVED

B. Motion to approve the request from Chief of Police Craig for Change of Duty Status: Suspension without Pay for Police Officer Lonnie Wade, Badge 4988, assigned to the Eleventh Precinct for violations of DPD policy.

Motion: Dewaelsche

Second: Sanders

VOTE: Yes = 10

No = 0

Abst.= 0

MOTION APPROVED

The Board directed that staff include in the minutes a summary of the incident and actions related to the suspensions without pay for public information, the following summaries are therefor included as a note.

Summary: PO Lonnie Wade: Officer Lonnie Wade began employment as a Detroit Police Officer in 1978. Seventeen (17) citizen complaints have been filed against him, 2 have been sustained (the first in 2012). On October 8, 2017, around 8:40 P.M., Officer confronted citizen at a Meijer Store by asking to see his receipt. Citizen girlfriend provided the receipt, but walked back in the store to return the items. Citizen had a verbal exchange with Officer. Citizen pulled out his cell phone. Officer grabbed his wrist to arrest him for Disorderly Conduct (profanity), and Citizen pulled away. Officer used his PR-24 baton and struck Citizen in the head and face, causing serious injuries.

Department Policy violated: Strikes with the baton are not allowed until active Aggressive Behavior (acts that are hostile, injurious, or destructive). It was not until being struck several times that Citizen escalated to active Aggressive (arm bar takedown). Violations are noted in the following policy (1) DPD Less Lethal Weapons and Methods 304.2-6.3 (2) Directive 304.4 PR-24 Collapsible Baton) (3) 304.2-5.2 Force Continuum (4) 102.3-6-24 Use of Force Items 2, 5, and 6, which prohibit, "2. Improper use of weapon (violation of policy).", "5. Unnecessary use of force.", and "6. Mistreatment of any person."

Video evidence of this incident was widely broadcasted on commercial and social media.

C. Motion to approve the request from Chief of Police Craig for Change of Duty Status: Suspension without Pay for Police Officer Richard Billingslea, Badge 971, assigned to the Fifth Precinct for violations of DPD policy.

Motion: Dewaelsche

Second: Bell

VOTE: Yes = 10

No = 0

Abst.= 0

MOTION APPROVED

Summary PO Richard Billingslea: Officer Richard Billingslea began employment as a Detroit Police Officer in 2014. Twenty-two (22) citizen complaints have been filed against him, 8 have been sustained. On May 31, 2017, around 1:40 A.M., Officer Billingslea confronted Citizen at 17046 Harper, a Mobil Gas Station for disorderly conduct. Citizen friend, was with him. Initially, Officer prevented Citizen from entering the gas station. Citizen bladed his body to move past and made chest to chest contact with Officer. Officer got into a verbal exchange with Citizen. From a distance of 4 feet, Officer pepper-sprayed Citizen in the face. In addition, he forcibly slammed Citizen to the ground. Officer was going to arrest him for being disorderly. Citizen friend, recorded the incident. Officer disposed of Citizen's phone in the trash, which was recovered by another officer. Citizen was transported to a hospital where he was treated and released with Ibuprofen. Video, Commander Eric Ewing reviewed the gas station video surveillance system. Citizen's cell phone contains evidence related to the incident, and consequently has been retained by the DPD. Supervisor check of Equipment – Body Cam, Supervisor Randall Craig, Officer's supervisor conducted the inspection of the body cam which was found operational.

Department Policy violated: Violation of the DPD Use of Force policy 102.3-6.24, unnecessary use of force. Form UF-002, Use of Force Report #18126.

Announcements: The next Community Meeting of the BOPC is January 11, 2018 at 6:30 PM at the Northwest Activities Center, 18100 Meyer Road, 48235. The next regular meeting of the BOPC is scheduled for January 18, 2018, at 3:00 PM, Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48202.

Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:

Attorney Raymond Willis, complimented Commissioner Shirley Burch indicating she is a hard worker and strictly about business. **Ms. Faith** complemented the Board and Department indicating "There is a future and we presently have quite a bit of beauty in the world amid grieving Fathers, and Mothers that have lost children in death. There is a division in DPD that help

these parents and the siblings to weather the storm, they also help families through hard times with their school aged children. DPD adopts Families in holiday seasons, and embraced them and guide them... There are no throw away persons badge and non-badge wearers. I commend you as humans and people. Like all humanity is you all have bright futures being the success stories you are. I say to all of you. Keep it up!" **Mr. Bill Welbourne**, Tuskegee Airman, recognized and presented to the Board and Chief of Police an article from Dallas Tx on former Detroit DC Renee Hall. **Ms. Bernice Smith** welcomed the new Board. **Doni Stillwell** recognized new Board member William Davis indicating he has fought for city employees and the community. **Reginald Crawford, former DPD Police Commissioner**, raised questions about the statistical methods used in comparing crime data. He indicated that the homicide rate was not in fact lower than 1966. He indicated that in 1966 the city had 1.5 million citizens with a homicide count of 214. He indicated the rate would equal 14 homicides per 100,000 residents. The current number of 295, first is actually higher and would calculate out to about 40 homicides per 100,000 residents. He also cautioned Board members to be "unbossed and unbought", as this had characterized his term of office on the Board. **Michelle George** complimented Commissioner Davis and discussed several concerns like the need for warming centers this winter, and issues related to human trafficking and marijuana use. **Wayne Bernard** discussed the jurisdiction of the local neighborhood block club and a recent bogus survey that purported to show support for bike lanes on Schaefer Avenue, which the residents oppose due to existing egress challenges. Now traffic is worse because is narrower with bike lanes and PO are unfairly issuing \$175 tickets. He also indicated officers are not showing up to court and that many of the tickets are being dismissed.

MOTION to Adjourn by Commission Dewaelsche.

Adjournment 4:15 PM