

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: August 10, 2017 – 6:30 PM
 Location: Kean’s Marina, 100 Meadowbrook, Detroit, MI 48214

Chairperson Lisa Carter called the BOPC meeting to order at 6:30 PM (August 10, 2017)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Lisa Carter, Chairperson	Yes	
Eva Dewaelsche, Vice Chairperson	Yes	
Willie Bell	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Willie E. Burton (6:35 PM)	Yes	
Reginald Crawford	Yes	
Conrad Mallett (6:53 PM)	Yes	
Derrick Sanders	Yes	
Richard Shelby	Excused	
Bishop Edgar Vann	Yes	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for August 10, 2017.

The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:
Thursday, August 3, 2017

BOPC Officers Report(s): After welcome and opening remarks **Chairperson Lisa Carter** asked Rev. Stephanie Wilkins to provide the invocation. **Chairperson Carter** asked the Commissioners in attendance to introduce themselves and add any comments to the record. Other elected officials, representatives and VIPs were also asked to identify themselves or their organizational affiliations. BOPC staff in attendance were also introduced. Carter also welcomed Assistant Chief of Police Arnold Williams to the meeting and invited him to introduce his staff.

Chairperson Carter gave the following report, “Thank you for attending the August 10, 2017 community meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners. This meeting marks our eighth (8) community meeting this year. We are committed to meet in every section of the city at a time that is most favorable to citizens, partners and other stakeholders. This meeting is held in the 5th Police Precinct, Commissioner Willie Bell is the host Commissioner. Mr. Bell, would like to welcome the audience?

Additionally, I would like to thank Kean’s Marina for allowing us to use their facility. Commissioner Shelby is a member of the marina. I would also like to invite Carrie Lefever, Banquet Manager from the marina to also welcome the audience. Later, we will hear from Commander Eric Ewing and Captain Melissa Gardner of the 5th Precinct.

I would also like to note that under our agenda on resolutions we have a number of people that we would like to recognize for their contributions to law enforcement. Please refer to your agenda for the names of these citizens who help put the word “community” in community or neighborhood policing. I would also note that today there is a news article posted online on towing. The Board is in the process of reviewing several opinions and documents about towing and we will take up these items at a later date. However, I have asked the Departments of Police and Law to have representatives knowledgeable on the subject here at tonight’s meeting in case of questions.

Finally, I would like to indicate our continued support for injured and fallen personnel. In our minutes from last week, we recorded several of these officers. I understand that the situation and severity of injuries remain the same. Again, I ask for your support for the individual personnel and their families.”

Resolutions and Memorials: Commissioner Willie Burton read into the record a resolution for Keith Jones.

RESOLUTION HONORING MR. KEITH J. JONES

WHEREAS Mr. Keith J. Jones is a lifelong Detroit resident and community activist who has worked tirelessly over the years to be an agent of change in the Detroit community he loves. He is a graduate of Detroit Martin Luther King Jr. High School. Mr. Jones went on to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Merchandising and Business Management from Michigan State University in 2004. He later earned a Masters of Business Administration degree from the University of Phoenix Southfield Campus; and

WHEREAS Mr. Jones understood the importance of hard work, throughout his years of earning an education, he also exemplified an earnest work effort throughout his life, from managing political campaigns to working for the City of Detroit. Mr. Jones, along with his friends have develop a system that connect low wage workers to employment opportunities through transportation; and

WHEREAS Mr. Jones also has served on many board of directors for numerous organizations. He is a board member for a local school district and works in the community to support grassroots efforts to transform the landscape of neighborhoods in the City of Detroit; and

WHEREAS Mr. Jones works as the Chief of Staff for Detroit City Council member Andre L. Spivey, District 4 and is a part-time Adjunct Professor at Wayne County Community College District. Within the last two years, Mr. Jones has assisted the Fifth Precinct Neighborhood Police with painting and decorating the Halloween Float, preparing several hundred Halloween bags, and donating his own money to purchase Halloween costumes for the neighborhood less fortunate children; and

WHEREAS Mr. Jones has been involved in several Police Weeks, National Night Out and beautification projects at the Fifth Precinct. He was able to solicit over three hundred diapers for the Detroit Police Departments, "Diapers in the D's" project drive, and volunteered for numerous activities within the community. Mr. Jones is always eager and able to assist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners speaking for the citizens of the city of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, acknowledge the dedicated, hardworking, caring and committed support of Mr. Keith Jones. His public service and devotion to improving the quality of life for all citizens in his community and throughout the city of Detroit, merits our highest regards.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Willie Bell read into the record a resolution for Ms. Zeld Anderson.

RESOLUTION HONORING ZELDA ANDERSON

WHEREAS, Zeld Anderson is a longtime Detroit resident who moved to MorningSide in 2000. She took her role as good neighbor seriously, becoming active on her block and throughout the 1.5-square mile eastside community. Much of her activity and participation includes the 5th Precinct, the 5th Precinct Community Relations Council, and many precinct programs; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Anderson saw the need for community unity and action as the once stable neighborhood underwent abandonment, blight and population loss during the infamous mortgage meltdown and the Great Recession. MorningSide lost 27 percent of its population as owner-occupancy rates fell drastically; and

WHEREAS, concerned for the safety of residents, especially children and senior citizens, and the overall stability of her community, Ms. Anderson used her advocacy through the MorningSide Community Organization to advocate for a comprehensive plan that would return the quality of life to the area. During the last five years, she has worked with the community, the 5th Precinct, and city-wide stakeholders to develop and implement a strategic plan for the neighborhood stabilization and regrowth; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Anderson, in her roles as vice president and later as president, has helped to board up abandoned houses and participated in Angel's Night canvassing, important measures to deter drug houses, arson, and fire hazards and to keep streets safe for children, particularly those walking to and from school. She also has worked with Wayne State University's AmeriCorps Urban Safety program to build new block clubs and boost participation in existing ones; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Anderson has helped connect the community with crime prevention programs and resources. Her work has helped educate potential homebuyers on how to avoid housing scams. She also has shared resources that help keep

neighborhood youth safe on the internet and homes safe when owners go on vacation. Her proactive approach makes a big impact in MorningSide and throughout the 5th Precinct.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great city of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department acknowledge the dedicated, support of Ms. Zelda Anderson. Her generous spirit and commitment to improving the quality of life for all citizens in the Fifth Precinct and throughout the city of Detroit, merits our highest regards.

Commissioner Willie Bell also read into the record and presented Certificates of Appreciation for Commander Mark Bliss, NPO Audrey Curtis, NPO Deandre Gaines, NOP Deborah Gaines, NPO Herman King and Ms Beverly Brown.

Motion: Motion to Honor Keith Jones, Zelda Anderson, Commander Bliss, NPO Curtis, NPO D. Gaines, NPO D. Gaines, NPO King and Beverly Brown (**Dewaelsche**)

Second: (**Vann**)

Vote: Yes = 9 No = 0 Abst = 0 (Vacant = 1) **Action: Approved**

COP Police Report: AC Arnold Williams reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending August 6, 2017. AC Williams reported Homicides percentage change between 2015 and 2016 of -5% decrease, Sexual Assaults -16% decrease, Robbery -11% decrease, Carjacking -6% decrease, Aggravated Assaults, -5% decrease, Non-fatal shooting, -7% decrease for an overall total of -6% decrease. Also reported for property offenses, Burglary 2% increase, Larceny -13% decrease, Stolen Vehicles -4% decrease for a total of a -7% decrease. AC Williams also reported the Chief of Police James Craig was on vacation.

Presentation to the Board: (A) Jay Henderson, (B) Donna Givens and (C) 5th Police Precinct.

(A) Jay Henderson, President, 5th Precinct Community Relations Committee addressed the Board and welcomed the Board in into the 5th precinct.

(B) Donna Givens, President & CEO Eastside Community Network remarked about the work of the Department as well as articles in the national news about “bad” cops forced returned to Department because of pressures from Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA), issues related to police residency, and various programs underway by the Eastside Community Network.

(C) Captain Melissa Gardner gave a presentation on the work of the 5th Precinct, the geographic and physical nature of the 5th Precinct. Gardner also outlines several local strategies to combat crime in the precinct.

BOPC Standing and Ad hoc Committee Reports: Commissioner Brooks indicated recruitment remains one of the highest priorities of the Board. Brooks announced the next recruitment activity would take place at the African World Festival on the grounds Charles Wright Museum.

Report from the Board Secretary: Mr. Hicks reported on seven (7) communications received by the Board including items related to towing, candidate appeals, and grants received by the Department.

Old Business. Commissioner Bell and Vann raised the current situation with regards to Police Authorized Towing. Bell indicated he had recently had a discussion with Corporation Counsel and arranged a meeting for Monday, August 14, 2017.

New Business: None

Announcements:

Next regular Meeting, Thursday, August 17, 2017 at Public Safety Headquarters at 3:00 PM., 1301 Third Street, Detroit MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, September 21, 2017, at the Operating Engineers Local 324, 1550 Howard St., Detroit, MI. 48216

Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:

Joan Forie indicated she was owner of a towing company and a Real estate Business and was concerned about the current situation involving towing. **Bill Wellborn** member of the Tuskegee Airmen announced a summer program wherein young people will be afforded an opportunity to ride in aircrafts over the city. **Beverly Brown** indicated she was pleased with the announcement of DC Hall's appointment to Chief of Police in Dallas and wished her well on her new assignment. **Andre Walker** member of the 9th Precinct Community Relations Committee voiced concerns about crime and area blight in and around the community.

Motion to adjourn. Accepted by Chairperson Carter.

Adjournment 7:59 PM.