

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners

Date of Meeting: April 5, 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 3:00 PM (April 5, 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	Excused	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Excused	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Conrad Mallett, Jr.	Excused	
Derrick Sanders	N/A	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for April 5, 2018.

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:
Thursday, March 29, 2018

BOPC Chairperson Lisa Carter, said “Good Afternoon. I am Police Commissioner Lisa Carter, Chairperson of the Board of Police Commissioners. I represent District #6. Thank you for attending our meeting today. For people viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for viewing.

As a Board, we are down and missing one of our members. **Detroit Police Commissioner Derrick Sanders** who passed over the Easter weekend. He will be funeralized this Saturday at 1:00 PM at Swanson Funeral Home. Derrick Sanders is most known for his work as a labor leader. Sanders was a Business Representative of the Operating Engineers Union Local 324. Sanders and the Operating Engineers Union is best personified in their mantra of “We Keep Michigan Running.” Commissioner Sanders was a vital part of the Commission and by his contributions to this Board, helped “Keep the BOPC Running.” Sanders also contributed his time and energy to several other city organizations, beyond his union work. Two of these organizations include the Detroit Economic Growth Corporation and the Detroit Building Authority.

Additionally, **Lieutenant Shawn Wesley** will be funeralized Friday at Pine Grove Baptist Church at 11:00 AM. Lieutenant Wesley is a veteran of the Department and has served Detroiters for 32 years.

I would also like to note the death of **Winnie Mandela**. Ms. Mandela was a freedom fighter and worked with Nelson Mandela against Apartheid and racial oppression of South Africa. Winnie Mandela was a mother to Africans around the world, a wife and an advocate for social and economic justice and democracy.

Derrick Sanders and Shawn Wesley will be memorialized by this Board later in the agenda. I ask for prayers for Winnie Mandela. I ask for a period of silence to reflect on the careers and lives of Commissioner Derrick B. Sanders, Lieutenant Shawn K. Wesley and Freedom Fighter Winnie Mandela.”

INVOCATION: I will asked **Detroit Police Chaplin Davenport** to provide the invocation for today.

BOPC Officers Report(s): Chairperson Carter asked the Commissioners in attendance to introduce themselves and add any comments to the record. **Commissioners Bell, Dewaelsche, Brooks, Burch, Davis and Carter** all gave their condolences to Ms. Natalie Sanders and the family of Commissioner Derrick Sanders. 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 **DC Charles Fitzgerald** to the meeting and invited him to introduce DPD staff.

Chairperson Carter continued, "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 Thursday's 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 working 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 dollar 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.

At the top of our meetings, we always indicate, on behalf of the Board, our concern and support for fallen and injured officers and their families. I would ask the Chief during his remarks to provide us with any additional information related to injured and fallen officers.

Today, we have a presentation from DPD's Sex Crime Unit. Please note that in your package are copies of questions submitted to the Department in advance of the presentation. Our questions focused on quantifying the number of rapes and sexual assaults in our city and how the Department handles or investigates these crimes. We also asked about any special trends or patterns of behavior associated with these crimes as well as an update on the rape kit backlog issue. We hope that the presentation today will cover these critical issues. I also want to call to your attention a change in the order of our agenda. We have scheduled a CLOSED SESSION to take up a personnel matter, a request from the Chief of Police to suspend without pay, Police Officer Tammie Barnes. We will advance oral comments before the closed session for comments from the public. After we return from the Closed Session, we will take up any formal actions regarding Officer Barnes as required under the Open Meetings Act. So, with the adjustment in our agenda, we will have oral communications from the audience earlier, so 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, and he needs your card before the beginning of public comments.

Resolutions:

Commissioner Dewaelsche read into the record a resolution to honor the life and service of **Detroit Police Commissioner DERRICK B. SANDERS.**

**RESOLUTION HONORING DETROIT POLICE COMMISSIONER
DERRICK SANDERS (POSTHUMOUSLY)**

WHEREAS Derrick Sanders was appointed to the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners on November 29, 2015. A highly respected, union leader, and actively involved throughout the entire community, and a devoted family man; and

WHEREAS Commissioner Sanders, going beyond the call of duty, served as the Chairperson of Board of Police Commissioners Budget Subcommittee, served as a Commissioner of the Detroit Wayne Joint Building Authority, a member on the City of Detroit Water Board, a member of the Detroit Public Schools Oversight Committee, and a member of the Detroit Brownfield Redevelopment Authority Board; and

WHEREAS On Saturday, March 31, 2018, after 3 productive years of a five year term Commissioner Derrick Sanders passed away. He had been a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324 since 1993 and was serving as a business representative and trustee for the Local. "Derrick was a leader, a friend, and a tireless supporter and advocate for labor and OE324," the group said in a statement. "He had a heartfelt belief in the revitalization of Detroit, and the power of our industry to create good, safe careers to improve communities and lives. He will be greatly missed"; and

WHEREAS Chairperson Lisa Carter states, Commissioner Sanders brought a unique perspective to his role and duties as a board member and as chair of the budget subcommittee," she said. "To him, the numbers on a spreadsheet were people and equipment needed to provide

our city with the best level of public safety. Sanders was known for visiting precincts and pushing to ensure city officers had functioning fleet cars, member Eva Garza Dewaelsche said. "He was really very committed and sincere and serious"; and

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 honor and salute Detroit Police Commissioner Derrick Sanders for his compassion, spirit of giving, leadership and commitment to the citizens of the City of Detroit. His outspoken passion for equality and accountability continues to support the framework through which the Board of Police Commissioners governs.

We thank and salute you, Commissioner Derrick Sanders.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Dewaelsche moved the resolution to honor the life and service of **Detroit Police Commissioner Derrick Sanders**.

Commissioner Bell, second.

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Commissioner Bell read into the record a resolution to honor the life and service of **LT. SHAWN K. WESLEY**.

**BOARD RESOLUTION HONORING LT. SHAWN K. WESLEY
(Posthumously)**

WHEREAS Shawn K. Wesley was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on October 20, 1986. Upon graduating from the Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Wesley began his career at the Tactical Services Section; and

WHEREAS Officer Wesley dutifully served the Eighth Precinct, and the Records Unit. Officer Wesley was promoted to the rank of Investigator on July 24, 1998, and reassigned to Records Unit and Internal Controls Section. Investigator Wesley was promoted to Sergeant on January 22, 1999, was reassigned to Internal Controls Section. He also served at Internal Affairs Unit, Notification Control Section, Investigations Portfolio, Police Medical, Office of the Chief of Police, and Homeland Security. On November 22, 2013 Sergeant Wesley was promoted to Lieutenant, serving Criminal Investigations, Second Precinct, Communication Operations, Secondary Employment, and reassigned to Communication Operations. On Wednesday, March 28, 2018, after thirty-two (32) years of service, Lieutenant Shawn K. Wesley, badge L-36 passed away; and

WHEREAS During his law enforcement career, Lieutenant Wesley was the deserving recipient of one Perfect Attendance Award, two Chief Unit Awards, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, and the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, and numerous letters of commendation from citizens and superiors; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Wesley tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 32 years. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity and dedication were a credit to the Detroit Police Department. He trained and mentored numerous officers and contributed greatly to the development of many adept professional law enforcement personnel today. He was a community activist, and was highly respected by the citizens from whom he served as a consummate professional.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, award this resolution posthumously in recognition of Lieutenant Wesley's 32 years of dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and standard of commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

We salute you Lieutenant Shawn K. Wesley for a job well done.

Commissioner Bell moved the resolution to honor the life and service of **Lieutenant Shawn K. Wesley**

Commissioner Burch, second.

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Detroit City Councilmember Roy McCalister presented to the BOPC Board a Spirit of Detroit Award in honor of the life and work of Detroit Police Commissioner Derrick Sanders. The recognition was received by the Board (Commissioner Bell) and will be made available to the family of Commissioner Sanders.

COP Police Report: Deputy Police Chief Charles Fitzgerald reported that crime is continuing to trend downward. Fitzgerald reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending April 1, 2018. DC Fitzgerald reported Homicides percentage change between 2016 and 2017, -16% decrease in Homicides, Sexual Assaults 38% increase, Robbery -22% decrease, Carjacking -17% decrease, Aggravated Assaults -2% decrease, non-fatal shootings -24% decrease, Burglary -28% decrease, Larceny -4% decrease, Stolen Vehicle -24% decrease and Part 1 offenses -14% decrease. Fitzgerald gave an update on injured and fallen officers. **Commissioner Bell** indicated that he had read several citizen complaints and indicated that the use of the F-word was not acceptable under the demeanor policy of the Department. Bell requested that the Chief of Police put out an administrative message reminding the Department of the Department Policy. Bell also requested that the Chief Investigator (OCI) monitor BOPC Citizen Complaints for 30 days to ascertain any violation to the demeanor policy involving the use of the F-word. Bell also requested that DC Fitzgerald report back to the Board next week any actions related to his concerns about demeanor and how the Department has reminded officers to correct their behavior.

Presentations to the Board: (A) Sex Crimes Unit, Captain Joe Tucker, Jr. and Sergeant Bobby Ward

(A) Sex Crimes Unit, Captain Joe Tucker, Jr. and Sergeant Bobby Ward. Sergeant Ward described the general organization of the Major Crimes Division which included Special Victims Unit, Sex Crimes, Child Abuse and Domestic Violence. Ward continued to discuss the responsibilities of the four squads within Sex Crimes; Known Offenders wherein the victim is 15 years and younger (Squad #1), Known Offenders wherein the victim is 16 years and older (Squad #2), Unknown Offenders all ages (Squad #3), and Cold Cases/Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) (Squad #4) Of the four squads Sex Crimes has 27 sworn members and 1 civilian. The unit investigates CSC 1,2,3 and 4 type crimes, indecent exposure, Human Trafficking and False reporting of sex crimes. Sergeant Ward shared yearly statistics with the Board including for 2018 the unit has investigated 480 allocations, year to date with a 70% closure rate, for 2017 the unit has investigated 2073 allocations, year to date with a 62% closure rate and for 2016 the unit has investigated 1913 allocations, year to date with a 61% closure rate. Ward walked the Board through the regular investigative procedures which culminates into the presentation of an arrest warrant to the Wayne County Prosecutor. Ward also discussed trends and patterns including increase activity surrounding social media and direct internet access to vulnerable populations likely to become victims of sex crimes. Ward continued by describing several community initiatives and partnership that work with the sex crime unit. Ward concluded his presentation with a update on the Rape Kits. He indicated that 0 untested rape kits remain, all kits have been forwarded to the Michigan State Police Lab for investigation and processing. Ward indicated that as a result of the evidence following from the rape kits 204 arrests have occurred and 9 additional arrest are pending. These arrest has resulted in 244 warrants and to date 133 convictions have occurred (61% closure rate). **Commissioner Dewaelsche** asked if the closure rate of the Department is in line with national closure rates. **Commissioner Davis** asked what can be done to increase the closure rate locally. **Captain Tucker** indicated that if the city had its own Crime Lab and was not dependent on the State of Michigan Crime Lab he would envision a higher closure rate because the Department would not be dependent on the long wait for the State to provide results from rape kits.

BOCP Standing Committee Reports: None.

Report from the Board Secretary. Mr. Hicks reported on four items listed on the agenda. Hicks including a request by the Chief of Police to Suspend without Pay, Lt. Timothy Leach which has be scheduled for hearing at the April 19, 2018 Board meeting.

Old Business: None.

Announcements: The next regular meeting of the BOPC is Thursday, April 12, 2018 (Community Meeting 6:30 PM) at Peace Baptist Church, 13450 Goddard Avenue, Detroit Mi., 48212 (11th Police Precinct).

Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:

Detroit City Councilmember Roy McCalister responding to the work to increase the closure rate in the sex crimes unit reaffirmed the need for a Detroit Police Department Crime Lab. **Ms. Bernice Smith** congratulated the Department for working on a nuisance problem in her community. **Ms. Faith** acknowledged the work of the Department and the addition of the new PAL Field along with the work with young people. **Ms. Michelle George** applauded a program at Henry Ford Hospital that administers HIV treatment and prevention medications in cases of rape and other sexual assaults.

New Business: Closed Session for P.O. Tammie Barnes, Badge #2923 request by the Chief of Police for Suspension without Pay.

Commissioner Dewaelsche moved that the Board of Police Commissioners go into a Closed Session to take up a personnel request from the Chief of Police to suspend without pay **Police Officer Tammie Barnes, Badge #2923**.
Second, **Commissioner Davis**.

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Board adjourned to the Woodward Room for the Closed Session at 4:20 PM

The BOPC reassembled into regular Order at 5:00 PM and the Chair called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Bell moved that the Board of Police Commissioners return to regular order.
Second, **Commissioner Dewaelsche**.

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Commissioner Bell moved that the Board of Police Commissioners concur with the recommendation from Detroit Police Chief Craig to suspend Police Officer Tammie Barnes without pay.

Second, **Commissioner Dewaelsche**.

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

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

Second, **Commissioner Dewaelsche**.

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Adjournment 5:15PM