

**Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners**  
**Date of Meeting: June 21, 2018 – 3:00 PM**  
**Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226**

**Vice Chairperson Eva Dewaelsche called the BOPC meeting to order at 3:00 PM (June 21, 2018)**

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

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for June 21, 2018.**

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:  
 Thursday, June 14, 2018**

Vice Chairperson Eva Garza Dewaelsche said, Welcome, Good Afternoon. I am Police Commissioner Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Vice Chairperson for the Board of Police Commissioners and will be conducting our meeting today. Commissioner Lisa Carter is unable to attend On behalf of the Board, for those in the attending audience, thank you for joining us. For people viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for viewing our meeting on your cable channel.

Vice Chairperson Dewaelsche asked each Commissioner to introduce themselves for the record. Detroit Police Chaplin Corp, Chaplin Mobley was asked to provide the invocation. Dewaelsche asked all elected officials, Civic leaders BOPC and DPD staff introduce themselves.

**BOPC Officers Report:** (Eva Garza Dewaelsche, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. The Board of Police Commissioners exists 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 attention to a few important items, several are informational items and others will require action by the Board. The first meeting in July is scheduled for Thursday, July 5, 2018. The timing of this meeting is likely to result in limited attendance because the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration falls in the middle of the week, one day before our meeting. I would suggest that we cancel the

July 5, 2018 meeting. Provided that there is support for the cancellation, at the appropriate point I will be asking for a motion to cancel the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

I want to draw your attention to your Board package. Included in the package is a copy of the Board of Police Commissioner's Special insert into the Michigan Chronicle to be published with its June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 edition. The insert discusses our role in providing oversight to the Police Department and many of our current accomplishments. I want to thank Ms. Teresa Blossom, our Media and Outreach Director for her continuous work to provide information to the community and heighten the profile of the Board.

On Monday, June 18, 2018, the Department issued a notification advising that 23 Senior Citizens had been arrested for protesting in the area of Bates and Randolph streets in downtown Detroit. The notification indicated that the seniors were ticketed and transported to the parking lot of the Detroit Detention Facility. The information beyond this point is unclear. I asked for the Department to update us on this activity, which might be related to the "Poor People's Campaign" and its efforts to highlight a water crisis in our city. The Board is concerned with the treatment of our senior citizens as well as others who protest against injustices be handled in a respectful and professional manner. All reports suggests that this was the case on Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. I ask the Chief to add an update on this to his report to the Board.

The Chief of Police has recommended 6 officers to be promoted to vacant ranks of Lieutenant and 15 officers to vacant ranks of Sergeant. The Board has reviewed these recommendations and is poised to act on the Chief recommendations. Under New business, Commissioner Willie Bell will introduce a motion to act on the Chief's recommendations and read the names of the individual officers into the record for the Boards consideration.

Also, many of us have been shocked by the recent practice of the federal government to separate children from their parents at the U. S. borders. I will have a statement for the record on this subject (Commissioner Dewaelsche).

We will also have a presentation from the Public Safety Foundation. Ms. Patti Kukula, Executive Director of the Foundation will address the Board and report on the work of the Foundation.

Toward the end of the meeting we will have oral communications. 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.

Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Willie Bell who moved that the July 4, 2018 Board of Police Commissioners be cancelled. Commissioner Brown second, Bell's motion.

**VOTE:                    Yes = 7                    No = 0                    Abst. = 0                    MOTION APPROVED**

Vice Chair Eva Dewaelsche read the following statement into the record,

**Statement on Trump's policy of forced family separations at U.S. borders  
Commissioner Eva Garza Dewaelsche - June 21, 2018  
Detroit Board of Police Commissioners**

The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners are outraged that law enforcement officers and our national government are involved in the inhuman act of separating families immigrating to the U.S. Moreover, we are equally outraged that our federal government has not developed a reasonable series of immigration laws that address today's realities.

The advice that our national government gives to those fleeing terror is to report to a designated entrance point and claim asylum. In reality, as many people do as instructed, our government continues to turn prospective asylum seekers away oftentimes leaving defenseless people with no other alternative but to cross the borders under the cover of night. The general public is mindful that there are no laws that require the practice of separating children from their parents. Rather, this was a self-directed policy that was proposed and implemented by the current administration and has fueled the conflict.

Yesterday, President Trump signed an Executive Order directing the government to stop the practice of separating children from their parents. However, we, hope that our citizens clearly understand that the Executive Order does not speak to the nearly 3,000 children who have already been separated from their parents. In fact, the Executive Order does not include a plan, at all, to return or re-unite these 3,000 plus children, some as young as a few months, with their parents.

In Michigan, according to a Detroit Free Press article authored by Nancy Kaffer, an 8 month old boy is one of fifty children already transferred to our state. Immediate family re-unification and adequate support for children and adults should be one of the highest priorities of our public policy.

We, The Board of Police Commissioners, call upon President Donald Trump and the Members of Congress to end all practices that separate children from their parents and to implement an immediate plan to return and re-unite the 3,000 plus children with their parents! We also strongly urge Washington D.C. to become more engaged with the family of nations to develop and implement reasonable immigrations practices that recognize conflict in other areas of the world that reinforce and drive defenseless people to seek opportunities in America. As a Board we stand to remind others that our nation's democratic principles and basic human decency will not be denigrated by today's inhumane practices.....ultimately, they will stand the test of time!

**COP Police Report:** Detroit Chief of Police James E. Craig reported that crime is continuing to trend downward. Chief Craig reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending June 17, 2018. Craig reported Homicides percentage change between 2016 and 2017, -5% decrease in Homicides, Sexual Assaults 45% increase, Robbery -12% decrease, Carjacking 7% increase, Aggravated Assaults -9% decrease, non-fatal shootings -20% decrease, Burglary -21% decrease, Larceny -1% decrease, Stolen Vehicle -22% decrease and Part 1 offenses -11% decrease. Chief Craig reported on several community engagements and asked Commander Darin Szilagyi to provide the Board with an update on the arrest of 23 senior Citizens involved in the Poor People Campaign. Commissioner Willie Bell asked for an update on the noise complaints on Jefferson Avenue. Commander Darin Szilagyi reported that the Poor People Campaign had some 250 protesters, 23 voluntarily presented themselves to be arrested in protest of the conditions faced by minority citizens and the recent treatment of immigrants at U. S. Boarders. Szilagyi also reported that Operation Jefferson was a coordinated enforcement approach to reduce the impact of traffic and loitering. Commissioner Elizabeth Brooks indicated that the issue of bike lanes continues to be the source of confusion, she along with Commissioners Shirley Burch and Jim Holley asked that we arrange for someone to come and explain our approach to bike lanes and other mobility issues. Commissioner Darryl Brown raised the problem of mini-bikes in select areas of the city.

**Presentations to the Board: (A) Detroit Public Safety Foundation, Ms. Patti Kukula, Executive Director**

(A) Detroit Public Safety Foundation, Ms. Patti Kukula, Executive Director reported on the efforts of the Public Safety Foundation to support the needs of the Detroit Police Department, Detroit Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services Department. Ms. Kulula highlighted several of the Foundations programs designed to benefit the Detroit Police Department including Detroit Youth Power Fest, Neighborhood Police Officers Summit and Sergeant Santa. Ms. Kulula also listed several programs to benefit the Detroit Fire Department and EMS including Chaplains Crisis Intervention Training, Lions and Leary Foundation Donations provided to the Foundation to support three firehouses and Engine 30 Renovations at Engine 30 on Meyers Road. Ms. Kulula also indicated that her Board would meet in August, 2018 and would formally add BOPC member Elizabeth Brooks to their Board of Trustees.

**BOPC Standing Committee Reports:** None.

**Report from the Board Secretary.** Hicks reported on a communication from MSP Trooper with assignments of Troopers in Detroit.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Commissioner Willie Bell indicated the Board had received a list of Police Officers (15) and Sergeants (6) recommended for promotion by Chief Craig. Bell indicated that BOPC staff has reviewed the list for compliance with DPD requirements for promotion and submitted their findings to the Board.

Commissioner Willie Bell moved that the list of promotions submitted by Chief of Police James Craig dated May 25, 2018 be approved by the Board. Commissioner Brown second. Commissioner Bell read the following names into the record.

**Recommendation to Promote to the Ranks of Lieutenant by Chief Craig - May 25, 2018**

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| A. Sergeant Brian Bowser | Sergeant Kimberly Gabriel  |
| Sergeant Gerry Johnson   | Sergeant Lawrence Purifoy  |
| Sergeant James Demps     | Sergeant Tereasa E. Duncan |

The Board of Police Commissioners also approved the promotions of fifteen officers to the rank of Sergeant, listed below.

A. Recommendation to Promote to the Ranks of Sergeant by Chief Craig - May 25, 2018

Detective Joanne E. Wright	Detective Reginald Beasley	Corporal Gregory Sawmiller
Corporal Abery Thomas	Neighborhood Police Officer Steven A. Shank	Police Officer Robert Rowe
Police Officer Sarah K. Monti	Police Officer Ronald Kidd	Police Officer Timothy E. Jones
Police Officer Danielle K. Murray	Police Officer Delicia L. Smith (Ponder)	Police Officer Brandon R. Shortridge
Police Officer Julie L. Krupinski	Police Officer Daniel E. Austin	Police Officer Richard J. Farrell

**VOTE: Yes = 7\* No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED**

\* Commissioner William Davis noted his exception against Police Officer Daniel E. Austin.

**Announcements:** The next community meeting of the BOPC is Thursday, July 12, 2018 at Joseph Walker Williams Center, in the 10<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct located at 8431 Rosa Parks, Detroit 48206 at 6:30 PM and the next regular meeting will be June 28, 2018 at 3:00 PM at the Public Safety Headquarters Building located at 1301 Third Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Detroit 48226.

**Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:**

Mr. Peter Rhoades complained about a Gas Station at 14125 W. Eight Mile Road at Livernois for the sale of lose cigarette and raised general questions about BSEED regulatory authority. Ms. Rondalyn Cash indicated she lost her father on February 1, 2017 and uncle, both victims of homicide. She added, after cooperating with the Homicide Section of the Department she and her family has not received any information from the Department. Ms. Cash complained not only about the lack of an investigation, but also how her family has been treated. Ms. Faith acknowledged the good work of the Department and Board especially in working with young people. Ms Harper-Lee, complained about a neighbor at 18253 Parkside and her continued concerns that the Department is not taking her complaints seriously, but rather is siding with her neighbor. Ms. Michelle George discussed federal and state laws related to medical and casual marihuana use. Mr. Eric Blount voiced his concern about how people were manhandled at a recent Board of Water Commissioners Meeting and the Department position on Sanctuary Cities.

Commissioner Bell moved with no other business before this Board that the Board of Police Commissioners meeting be adjourned. Second, Commissioner Davis

**VOTE: Yes = 7 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED**

**Adjournment 4:17 PM.**