

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners

Date of Meeting: January 10, 2019 – 6:30 PM

Location: Unity Temple of the Apostolic Faith Church, 17376 Wyoming, Detroit, MI 48221

BOPC Chairman Willie Bell called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 6:30 PM (December 13, 2018)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Willie E. Bell, Chairperson	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown, Vice Chairperson (6:50 PM)	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Excused	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Eva Garza Dewaelsche	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Excused	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Evette Griffie	Yes	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	8	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for January 10, 2019.

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:
Thursday, January 3, 2019**

Board of Police Commissioner Chairman Willie Bell: Chairman Bell said, “Good Evening. I am Police Commissioner Willie Bell, I represent District #4. I serve as Chair of the Board and will be conducting our meeting today. On behalf of the Board, for those in attendance, thank you for joining us. For people viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for viewing our meeting. Tonight’s meeting is the first community meeting of 2019. I want to wish members of our community a Happy New Year. Our Board pledges to make the same commitment to work hard on behalf of the people of Detroit as we have in previous years. We are honored to have our first meeting of the year hosted by Unity Temple of the Apostolic Faith Church.”

INVOCATION: Tyra Kendrick of the Detroit Chaplain Corp to provide the invocation.

Chairman Bell continued, tonight’s meeting is hosted by Police Commissioner Evette Griffie, District #2. I ask Commissioner Griffie to welcome us to District #2. (Commissioner Griffie welcomed the audience to District #2.) I also ask Elder Steven Staten the spiritual leader of Unity Temple of the Apostolic Faith Church to welcome the Board and the audience to his facility. (Elder Steven Staten welcomed the audience to Unity Temple of the Apostolic Faith Church.) Chairman Bell also asked Don Johnson of the 12th Police Precinct Police Community Relations Committee to address the Board. Mr. Johnson indicated the 12th Precinct was very active and has recommitted themselves for the 2019 year to support law enforcement and building the community. Bell asked for Introduction of Commissioners. Each Commissioner introduced themselves for the record. Bell also requested the introductions of BOPC and DPD staff (DC Charles Fitzgerald will be representing Craig).

Chairman’s Report – Willie Bell said, “On behalf of the Board, I want to express our concern and support for fallen and injured officers. Our concerns for officer safety and citizen protection is ranked as two of the most important priorities of the Board. Our Board receives a weekly report from the Department listing injured officers. I want to acknowledge the passing of Sergeant Eric Bucy. This past Monday, the Department and select Board members joined with the Bucy family to honor the life of a 22 year veteran of the Department. I would ask the DC Fitzgerald 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 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.

Under the Detroit City Charter, Article 7, Chapter 8, the Board of Police Commissioners is empowered to provide civilian oversight and supervisory control of the Police Department. Our citizens are justified in asking “How does civilian oversight of law enforcement help you as a citizen within our community?” Our answer is, we protect the civil rights of citizens. Oversight organizations like the BOPC are at the forefront of investigating, reviewing and auditing individual cases of citizen complaints and patterns of operations by police agencies to eliminate misconduct, discriminatory police practices and unnecessary use of force by police. Our work is based on developing and supporting effective policing. Mutual trust and respect between the police and the community is critical toward increasing the quality of life for residents and visitors to Detroit. 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.

In your Board package, please note a CompStat map of the 12th Police Precinct. The map shows various crimes for a 7 day period. Normally, you receive this information on a 28 day rotation. Please note with the smaller time period the percentage changes are incorrect. The materials to be prepared for the February meeting will have the 28 day base and the percentage figures will return to normal. Additionally in your package are copies of your District brochures. These brochures can be used to complement your work within your District. I want to thank the professional work of Ms. Teresa Blossom who researches and prepares much of the printed materials of the Board. Ms. Blossom will be working to draft our annual report soon. If the Board members have any suggestions for materials to be included in the annual report, please discuss this with Ms. Blossom.

Tonight I want to point to several important items as we begin 2019. The next graduation of the Detroit Police Academy will be held January 25, 2019 at 10:30 AM at Greater Grace Temple located at 23500 W. Seven Mile Road. This year we have a number of important challenges before the Board. The first is Detroit will host the National Conference of NACOLE. This conference will take place in the fall and we will need to engage a wide range of law enforcement friends and partners. The conference will take place as the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners acknowledge our 45 years as an oversight Board. The 1974 Detroit Charter established the Board and directed it to provide oversight and civilian control over our Department. Mayor Coleman A. Young appointed 5 members to the Board. In the 2012 Charter the Board was expanded to 7 elected members and 4 appointed members. With each Charter revision the authority of the Board emphasizing civilian oversight and control has remained a common rule directing the relationship between the Department and the Board. In 2018, the citizens opted to seek additional revisions to the Charter. The Detroit Charter Revision Commission is meeting tonight at the Northwest Activities Center. Over the next 3 years wherein the Charter Revision Commission will be required to do its work the Board of Police Commissioners, as a body, will engage with them and make recommendations that we believe will enforce the will of the people to have effective civilian control and oversight of the Department. Additionally, in 2019 our objective is to increase our communications and cooperation with the Chief of Police. The Chief’s Office is down the hall from our office, I hope that we will increase our interactions and resolve some of our outstanding differences. As a Board, we are resolved to follow the Charter and exercise the authority provided under the Charter. Our differences are important and must be resolved in the best interest of our citizens, the Department and the men and women who wear the uniform to serve and protect.

As many of you know, the Michigan State government has changed. We now have government controls in the hands of both major parties. We are now hopeful that some needed legislations that will enhance our quality of life and legislation to help rationalize law enforcement will be debated and resolved in the Michigan Legislature. Two issues of great concern for our city is the tremendous investment that we make in training officers in our police academy and the recruitment of our officers by other cities without compensation for our training expense. The second issue of great concern is the practice of law enforcement to take citizen property under the State’s property forfeiture laws without a criminal conviction or timely notification. The forfeiture process is complicated and difficult for citizens to follow. In many cases property is not returned to the rightful owners of the property. I have directed our staff to flag HB 4001 and HB 4002 so that we can monitor the discussion and progress of the bills. I hope to bring a resolution before this Board at the appropriate time to express the Board’s collective concerns on property forfeitures. Additionally, if the law changes in this area the Board operating with the cooperation of the Mayor and Chief of Police, we will be required to re-align our police policy and practice with the new requirements of the law.

Tonight, we have 2 presentations. We will have our monthly Human Resources Report by Dr. Marcella Anderson, Director of Police Personnel. At the request of the Board, the HR Report was transmitted to each Board member in your Tuesday package. I want to thank Dr. Anderson for making the report available in time for the Tuesday package. The second presentation is from the 12th Police Precinct. The presentation will be provided by Commander Deshaune Sims and Captain

Joe Tucker. My hope is that the report will summarize some of the hotspots and crime fighting techniques used in Precinct #12.

Under the Chief of Police Report, Deputy Charles Fitzgerald will report on some of the recent crime data tracked by CompStat along with other important information within the Department. I also want to thank Chief Craig for his prompt action in rescinding Teletype #18-0739. On December 6th, 2018 the Board asked for verification of a policy change announced in the Department's Administrative Messages. Teletype #18-0739 announced that DPOA members could use discretionary banked time, in lieu of disciplinary suspension to offset the time off given under the disciplinary process. By rescinding this change in disciplinary policy, we without question reaffirm the rules governing discipline within the Department."

Toward the end of the meeting we will have oral communications from the audience. 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. He will need your card before the beginning of public comments. We will hold each speaker to the allotted 2 minutes.

Chairman Bell indicated in closing that it is important that we work together to resolve serious problems within the community. Bell indicated that more police are not the answer alone. Bell remarked on the recent release of two African American men who had been wrongfully convicted and served long periods of time behind bars. He continued by stating that people are still being victimized and people are waiting for closure. He encouraged people to advocate and recommit as well as stay in school.

Commissioner Evette Griffie read into the record a resolution honoring James A. Ward, Jr.

RESOLUTION HONORING MR. JAMES A. WARD JR.

WHEREAS Mr. James A. Ward Jr. graduated from George Washington High School in New York, and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland; and

WHEREAS Mr. Ward rose to the rank of Captain in the United States Army, and was honorably discharged after five years of enlistment. He retired from Ford Motor Company as a Human Resource Manager after 25 years of service; and

WHEREAS Mr. Ward is a member of the Twelfth Precinct Police Community Relations Council and a Graduate of the Detroit Police Department Citizen Police Academy. Since 2000, he has been the President of the Green Acres Woodward Community Radio Patrol and a member of the Green Acres Woodward Civic Association Board of Directors responsible for building the gazebo and other beautification efforts in Hyde Park; and

WHEREAS Mr. Ward attends Freedom Fellowship Church and serves as a Trustee and co-Chairs the Family Ministry with his wife Shelia. He also established the Class of 1959 Endowment Fund for academically qualified/financially needy students at Morgan State University. It is one of the largest scholarship funds at the University. On December 18, 2015, he was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Morgan State University as a Morgan State University Student Civil Rights Pioneer; and

WHEREAS Mr. Ward is an active participant in the Twelfth Precinct community event endeavors: Halloween Parties, National Night Out, Police Week, and Good Fellow.

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 acknowledges the dedicated, hardworking, generous spirit of Mr. James Ward Jr. His commitment, and years of dedication to supporting the community of the Twelfth Precinct and the citizens throughout the city of Detroit, merits our highest regards. **DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

Motion by: Commissioner Evette Griffie to honor the contributions of Mr. James A. Ward, Jr., Second by Commissioner Jim Holley.

VOTE: Yes = 8 No = 0; Motion APPROVED

COP Police Report: Representing Chief of Police James E. Craig was Deputy Chief of Police Charles Fitzgerald. DC Fitzgerald reported that crime is continuing to trend downward. He indicated that the start of this year is better than the previous year. DC Fitzgerald reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending January 6, 2019. DC Fitzgerald reported percentage change between 2018 and 2019, -71% decrease in Homicides, Sexual Assaults -11% decrease, Robbery -31% decrease, Carjacking 88% decrease, Aggravated Assaults 48% increase, non-fatal shootings -20% decrease, Burglary -22% decrease, Larceny -16% decrease, Stolen Vehicle -17% decrease and Part 1 offenses -7% decrease. DC Fitzgerald also indicated the next graduation for the academy is January 25, 2019 at Greater Grace Temple, at 10:30 AM located at 23500 W. Seven Mile Road,

Detroit. Fitzgerald also reported on the funeral service for Detroit Police Sergeant Eric Bucy. Commissioner Darryl Brown inquired about how the Department counted its crime statistics. Brown asked if a person was killed in a suburban city outside of the city of Detroit, but lived in the city of Detroit would the Department include his death in Detroit homicide count? DC Fitzgerald responded by indicating that crime is incident based and that such a homicide would be recorded in the statistics of the outside community.

he would follow-up on the Chair's request for information related to Teletype 18-0739 wherein the DPOA members could use in lieu of disciplinary suspension time banks to offset the time off given under the disciplinary process.

Presentations to the Board: (A) Human Resources Monthly Report, Dr. Marcella Anderson, Director of Police Personnel. (B) 12th Police Precinct Presentation by Commander Deshaune Sims and Captain Joe Tucker.

(A) Human Resources Monthly Report, Dr. Marcella Anderson, Director of Police Personnel, provided statistical data for December 2018 (January 2019 Report). She indicated that of the total positions (2,639 Sworn) in the Department, DPD has 190 Vacant. Of the 683 (Civilian) positions in the Department, 79 are vacant. Ms. Anderson discussed recruitment and MCOLES processing indicating the Department has 1866 applications from 7/1/2018 to 12/31/2018 the Department hired 21 individuals. Anderson reported 154 are awaiting MCOLES certification, 46 are in process. Anderson also provide residency data, attrition data and leaves of absence and restricted duty data. Dr. Anderson indicated that her report covered officers suspended and not at work. She also indicated that the police unions also have information on the same. **Commissioner Jim Holley** asked for clarification on if the HR list is the same as the union list and how could the union have such a list when they do not have responsibility in this area other than representing suspended officers as their union representative. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** requested on the number of Hispanic officers employed in the Department. Commissioner Brown asked if the HR Director was knowledgeable of the DROP Program and if the HR Director had a plan for improving the operation of the Human Resources Bureau. Several Commissioners expressed a need to increase our efforts in recruitment and to identify any barriers that might work against recruitment.

(B) 12th Police Precinct Presentation by Commander Deshaune Sims and Captain Joe Tucker. Commander Deshaune Sims and Captain Joe Tucker reported on various crime statistics in the 12th Police Precinct. Captain Tucker reported on several of the programs and partnerships within the precinct., including target enforcement, project restore order, partnership with the Michigan Department of Corrections, the Department Gun program wherein the officers tract and appear before local judges to encourage higher bonds especially in the cases wherein guns are used, Tucker also discussed various enhancement in personnel at the precinct level including a assigned social worker, victims advocate and neighborhood police program. Tucker indicated that the precinct has 28 Greenlight locations and that officers have 3216 check-ins at the Greenlight locations in 2018. Tucker also indicated that the precinct has several outreach programs with senior citizens and youth.

BOPC Standing and Ad hoc Committee Reports: None.

Report from the Board Secretary: Mr. Hicks reported on five items including parking authorization process of Commissioners, a Detroit Free Press article on Asset-Forfeiture, CompStat report prepared by BOPC and Teletype #18-0739 (Administrative Message – re: DPOA use of comp time in lieu of Suspension.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Announcements: The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2019 at 3:00 PM at the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, 3rd Floor, Detroit, MI, 48226. The next community meeting of the BOPC is on February 14, 2019, 6:30 PM at Ford Resources and Engagement Center, 15491 Maddelein St., Detroit, MI 48216 (9th Police Precinct).

Oral Communications: David Martin from the Northend Guidance Center who expressed his organizations willingness to work with the BOPC. Roselyn Simpson expressed her concerns of people gathering on 7 Mile Road and Woodward. Peter Rhoads discussed the concerns of the Greenacers Neighborhood Association and the issues of Overlay Zoning as a method to control the placement of marijuana establishments.

Commissioner Bell requested motion to adjourn. Adjourned at 8:16 PM.