

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, March 5, 2020 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters

BOPC Chairperson Lisa Carter called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 PM (March 5, 2020)

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Lisa Carter, Chairperson	Yes	
Annie Holt, Vice-Chairperson	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown	Excused	
Shirley A. Burch	Excused	
Willie E. Burton (3:20 p.m.)	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Evette Griffie (3:21 p.m.)	Yes	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Vacant		
Quorum (Yes)	8	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for Thursday, March 5, 2020.

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes: Thursday, February 27, 2020.

Board of Police Commissioner's Chairperson Lisa Carter stated, "Good afternoon! I am Police Commissioner Lisa Carter, I represent District #6. I serve as the 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.

Commissioners Shirley Burch and Darryl Brown have asked to be excused from today's meeting. Today, we have invited Chaplain Jimmie Clark to provide the invocation.

INVOCATION:

Introduction of Commissioners (by individual Commissioner)

Business items for consideration:

- Business Item: (1) Approval of the Agenda – (Approval vote required)
(2) Minutes for February 27, 2020 – (Approval vote required)
- Introduction of BOPC Staff and DPD Staff.
- Introduction of Elected Officials, VIPs, civic leaders or their representatives.

March is Women's History Month, celebrating and honoring the achievements and successes of women. History tells us that President Jimmy Carter was instrumental in this important recognition when he selected the week of March 8th as Women's History Week. Also, of importance, March 8, 2020, is International Women's Day. During this month, and all year long, we highlight significant, remarkable advancements that women have made and continue to make to mankind.

Women have always been at the forefront of equal rights, gender rights, voting rights, justice, and dignity for all. We now live in a society where we observe women leading the charge and setting positive examples in all professions and capacities. Every day, dynamic, strong, and powerful women are redefining and reshaping history so that our future will be brighter and better. Take Detroit, locally, for example, where we observe women leaders in civilian oversight of law enforcement where (5) of the (10) current Commissioners are women and a civilian oversight staff with over half of the composition as women. On the Detroit Police Department, women are leading the charge and setting standards of excellence as Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, Administrative Directors, Commanders, Captains, Lieutenants, Sergeants, Detectives, Investigators, Neighborhood Police Officers, and Patrol Police Officers. Currently, approximately 25% of the police department are women. These are huge feats.

In this light, to commemorate the women in blue within the Detroit Police Department and the Detroit Fire Department, please save the date for the Women in Blue Event, which will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at the MGM Grand Detroit, from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. The event will honor the Women in Blue Officer of the Year and the Detroit Fire Department Woman of the Year. The keynote speaker this year is Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack of the Michigan Supreme Court.

As if that is not enough important history and information, we are celebrating the centennial (100) years of women achieving the right to vote, remembering the ratification of the 19th Amendment on August 18, 1920. Many women, and men have fought, struggled, and even shed their lives for our basic fundamental constitutional right to vote and for our freedom. This is why it is so critically important that we consistently exercise our right to vote and make our voices heard because of the fight it took to get us here and because of the continued efforts it will take for us to progress and advance even further. Please make sure to vote on March 10, 2020. Every vote counts, and every voice matters.

So, today, and every day, we encourage you to continue to thank and salute the women in your lives for the many sacrifices, contributions, wisdom, and strength they possess and share.

Chairperson's Report: Chairperson Lisa Carter

As we do every week, on behalf of the Board, I want to express the Board's concern and support for fallen and injured officers and their families. Officers' safety and citizens' protection are ranked as two of the most important priorities of the Board. Our Board receives a weekly report from the Department listing injured officers and I ask that the Chief provide us with any updates during his report.

The Board of Police Commissioners meets every week except for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday periods. We meet at Police Headquarters every Thursday at 3:00 p.m. except every 2nd Thursday of the month when we meet in the community at 6:30 p.m.

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 Board investigates non-criminal citizens' complaints, monitors Department operations, and works with the Mayor and the Chief of Police to establish police policies, rules, and regulations. As an oversight agency, the Board has the broad responsibility to protect the citizens, protect the city of Detroit from frivolous lawsuits, and create policies to enforce strict adherence to Department policies. Additionally, the Board works to eliminate police misconduct, discriminatory police practices, and unnecessary use of force by police. The Board also believes in transparency, community input, and accountability. As a civilian oversight agency, we protect the rights of citizens. Our objective is to increase the quality of life for residents and visitors to Detroit.

Commissioners, there are several important items for your consideration and information in your board packet emailed to you on Tuesday of this week and in your packet today. Today, we have one resolution honoring Lieutenant Michael Russell (Retired). At the appropriate time, I will ask Lieutenant Russell to accept his resolution.

Presentations: Today on our agenda, we have one (1) formal presentation to the Board – from Homicide, presented by Commander Tiffany Stewart. The Board submitted questions to the Department in advance of the presentation, which are included in your packets. The Department provided updated responses to the Board's questions and those responses are included in your package today. Also, I've asked Dr. Marcella Anderson, Director of Police Personnel, Human Resources Bureau, to update us on the timeline posting procedures for the Board's vacant positions for Secretary to the Board, Executive Manager of Fiscal, and Chief Investigator. At the appropriate time, I will ask Dr. Anderson to provide us with that update.

Chief's Report, From the Chief's Office, I am requesting updates on city-wide crime statistics and any other critical issues facing the Police Department. I am also requesting an update on the following:

- The Department's withdrawal from the DEA Task Force Initiative
- Update on the item concerning the Administrative Leave Without Pay Item from last week's meeting where the detained subject stated that he had asthma and the alleged offending officer refused to listen according to the BWC
- Whether Police Assistants and DOSOs (Desk Operations Support Officers) are required to wear and utilize BWCs based on their daily interactions with citizens; and
- Whether the Board will receive an updated list regarding precincts that have functioning Insight Video Capabilities that record lobby interactions between members and citizens.

Our Interim Board Secretary, Ms. White will provide us with various updates regarding incoming correspondence.

Also, I want to announce a few reminders: For your convenience, the Office of the Chief Investigator, will have the Citizen Complaint Table at every meeting to take citizen complaints from those persons interested in filing a complaint regarding alleged non-criminal police misconduct. You may visit the table and speak with Interim Chief Investigator Lawrence Akbar or one of the OCI Staff Members for more information. Again, remember to vote on March 10, 2020, or cast your absentee ballots. It is imperative. I would also like to remind you of the 2020 Census too. We must be counted in the 2020 Census to ensure the government properly represents us all. On Saturday, March 14, 2020, join the City of Detroit Census Team and Elected Officials for the Census 2020 Kick-Off at the Martin Luther King High School located at 3200 E. Lafayette Blvd., Detroit, 48207. Flyers are included in your packets and at the back table for more information.

At the end of the meeting, we will have public comments from the audience. The time for accepting speaker's cards will be 4:00 p.m. Please make sure you print your name on a speaker's card located on the back table or from Mr. Robert Brown. He will need your card before 4:00 pm. We will hold each speaker to the allotted 2 minutes. At this time, please place your cell phones and other electronic devices on vibrate so as not to interrupt the meeting. Finally, in the spirit of effective communication, please treat each other respectfully and professionally. Commissioners, please be reminded not to speak until you are recognized by the Chairperson and address your comments to issues that are relevant to the agenda and to be brief to ensure we have ample time for public comments. For the attending audience, please note there is a time on the agenda for citizen input and feedback. My objective this afternoon is to run an orderly meeting, including public comments, and to adjourn at a reasonable time. Thank you."

Resolution: Commissioner Willie E. Bell read the Resolution honoring Lieutenant Michael Russell.

RESOLUTION HONORING

LIEUTENANT MICHAEL RUSSELL

WHEREAS Michael Russell was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on January 17, 1995. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Russell began his career at the Second Precinct; and

WHEREAS Officer Russell's assignments with the Detroit Police Department included the Second Precinct, Commercial Auto Theft Section, Narcotics Enforcement; and

WHEREAS Officer Russell displayed tremendous knowledge and leadership skills as a Police Officer and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on November 4, 2002. He was assigned to the Commercial Auto Theft Section. He also served the Fifth Precinct, Thirteenth Precinct Investigative Operations Unit, Homicide, and Major Crimes; and

WHEREAS Sergeant Russell was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on October 30, 2017. Lieutenant Russell was assigned to Homicide and later served at the Crime Intelligence Unit, where he served until his retirement; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Russell was the deserving recipient of the following awards: Chief's Merit Award, Departmental Citation and Medal, three Chief's Unit Awards, Ford Fireworks Award, both Consent Judgment Awards, two Chief's Merit Awards, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, and the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, as well as numerous letters of commendation from citizens and superiors; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Russell has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 25 years. He has served the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of the City of Detroit with loyalty, professionalism, integrity, and dedication, and is widely respected throughout the law enforcement community as the consummate professional.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the citizens of the great City of Detroit recognizes and honors the lifelong contributions and commitment to excellence in public service of Lieutenant Michael Russell. His display of courage and unwavering community spirit has improved the quality of life for the citizens of Detroit. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

We thank and congratulate you, Lieutenant Michael Russell.

Commissioner Bell moved to approve the resolution. **Commissioner Holt** seconded the motion. Discussion. **Results:** Motion Approved

Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police James E. Craig:

Chief of Police Craig reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending March 2, 2020. **Chief Craig** provided an update on Drifting Activities, wherein the Department identified and located vacant lands and the recent drifting activity that was held last Sunday where (500) cars gathered. Lastly, the Board will receive updates regarding an upcoming ribbon-cutting location for drifting activities. **Chief Craig** discussed the Department's Staffing Status highlighting a decrease of only (4) officers during this week. **Chief Craig** also thanked Dr. Marcella Anderson, Director of Police Personnel, and First Assistant Chief Lashinda Stair's recruitment efforts. **Chief Craig** briefly discussed camera deployment regarding station civilian personnel.

Chief of Police Craig also provided updates on the Department withdrawing DPD Officers from the DEA Task Force Initiatives. **Chief Craig** expressed that the Department will continue to work with the DEA independently to address drug complaints in the City. **Chief Craig** explained the circumstances surrounding the decision to withdraw DPD members, based on the DEA failing to acknowledge the informant as a federal informant. The informant went on a killing spree, resulting in the deaths of (6) people, had a number of violations, and the ATF and the DEA had strong reluctance to acknowledge the informant was a federal informant. **Chief of Police Craig** discussed the process and policies utilized for assigning a federal informant and a DPD informant. **Chief Craig** also discussed the lack of information supplied to the DPD regarding known violations and previous interviews concerning the informant's criminal activity status. **Commissioner Davis** asked about the strategies to decrease the rate of homicides in the City of Detroit. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about the increase in more Detroiters applying for police officer based on the DPD's recent recruitment efforts. **Commissioner Brooks** commended Chief Craig for updating the Board on the DPD's decision to withdraw DPD Officers from the DEA Task Force Initiative. **Commissioner Bell** inquired about the DPD's policy on accepting informants. **Chief Craig** discussed the protective measures the Department utilizes to ensure safety for the City, political officials, and the community during critical, important events in the City. **Commissioner Burton** asked about whether the DPD utilizes electronic tracking devices of cell phones and the Stingray tracking devices.

Assistant Chief James E. White, Administrative Support Operations, reported on the precinct lobby cameras and the Department of Innovation and Technology's (DOIT) work to secure a contract for precinct cameras for the exterior and interior cameras and audio for all of the precincts. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about the contract completion date and other associated details. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about the storage capacity of the video footage. **Director Chris Graveline, Professional Standards Bureau**, reported on the Board's question involving the recent Administrative Leave Without Pay matter involving a prohibited chokehold incident brought before the Board. **Director Graveline** reported that their investigation was still ongoing; however, the statement, "No you don't" was not made by the charged officer when the victim expressed that he had asthma during the incident.

Presentations to the Board:

1. **Homicide Section Presentation** presented by Commander Tiffany Stewart, Major Crimes, and Captain Jonathan Parnell, Homicide Section: (Presentation Posted Online)

Captain Jonathan Parnell, Homicide Section, reported on the Homicide Section's extensive responsibilities of investigating deaths originating within the City of Detroit. The presenter discussed the Homicide's Section's composition and distribution of responsibilities and assignments. **Captain Parnell** also discussed the Homicide Section's efforts to provide critical support, utilize various technologies, and partnerships to reduce violent crime in the City of Detroit. **Captain Parnell** highlighted noteworthy cases that increased the safety of the City of Detroit with the removal of several violent felony offenders through the combined efforts of Department Personnel, law enforcement technologies, and various partnerships. Lastly, **Captain Parnell** provided responses to the various questions previously submitted by the Honorable Board. Key homicide statistics were also provided reflecting the percentages for both 2019 and 2020 YTD:

	2019	2020 YTD
Number of Homicides	273	48
Clearance Rate	51%	52%
Motive	94 - Argument 34%	14 - Argument 32%
Manner of Death	228 - Shooting 84%	37 - Shooting 84%
Victim Age	108 - 21-30 YOA 40%	16-21-30 YOA 36%

Commissioner Holley inquired about whether the use of the Checker Cab Company for transportation was part of the City's bidding process. **Commissioner Holley** also inquired about the number of unsolved homicide cases overall and the methods used to determine the statute of limitations. **Commander Tiffany Stewart** provided information on the City's Bid Process wherein Checkers' Cab Company was chosen through a competitive bidding process based on supplying a less expensive rate. **Commander Stewart**, additionally, provided information on the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Standard Closure and the details associated with closed case status. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about how many of the homicide closed cases involved illegal weapons. **Commissioner Brooks** asked for an update on the firearms' gun laws based on the number of guns seized during the Department's efforts to combat the criminal activity. **Commissioner Bell** asked about the Department's Support System Program for the families in need of assistance. **Commissioner Holley** asked how the Support System Program information is distributed to the community and whether it can be placed on the Department's website. **Chairperson Carter** requested an update on an issue previously shared with the Board from a family who was concerned about an arson investigation involving the death of their loved one. **Lieutenant Kenneth Gardner, L-103, Homicide Section**, provided an update into this matter.

Report from Interim Board Secretary/Communications to BOPC as incoming information: Ms. White reported on the following correspondence.

1. DPD Facial Recognition Report #18
2. Project Green Light Report Update (3/1/2020)
3. Email Re: The Purpose of a Union

Unfinished Business:

Dr. Marcella Anderson, Director of Police Personnel, Updates on Board Vacancy Positions: Dr. Anderson provided the Board with updates on the posting requirements for the positions of Secretary to the Board, Executive Manager of Fiscal, and Chief Investigator. The postings will be available on the City's Website, Indeed, Linked In, and Career Builders' websites. **Chairperson Carter** noted the postings' discussion would be brought before the Board in (3) weeks, and any updates for the Chief Investigator's position would be returned to Human Resources by next Thursday, March 12, 2020. The posting will stay open until the Board hires someone for the position.

New Business:

Commissioner Holley inquired about the policy on all of the Board's Staff and all Commissioners' attendance at all of the Board Meetings. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about the equal distribution of citizen complaint investigations amongst all Board Members. **Commissioner Brooks** urged continued recruitment of Detroit Police Officers. **Commissioner Bell** discussed police retention and the critical need for police salary increases and better health-care benefits. He expressed addressing these items to maintain police retention. **Commissioner Holt** supported the urgency of increased police salaries and better health-care benefits. **Chairperson Carter** requested all to contact the Detroit City Council and the Mayor's Office regarding these important issues of police salary increases and better health-care benefits.

Announcements: Chairperson Carter announced the following:

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., in the Downtown Services, at WCCCD Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus, in the Frank Hayden Community Room, 1001 West Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, April 9, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., in the Eleventh Precinct, at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 13651 Dequindre Street, Detroit, MI 48212.

Public Comments:

Ms. Faith spoke about Commissioner Davis's article in the paper, and expressed how well the board works together. She also requested information on how a citizen can help Crime Stoppers, Human Trafficking, and Domestic Violence issues. She was referred to speak with Captain Parnell. **Ms. Bernice Smith** shared the discussion on talk radio regarding disrupting Presidential Candidate Biden's visit to Detroit. She advocates for increase in officers' pay. **Mr. Eric Blount** restated his concern regarding the false affidavits and the Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation Act 343 of 2016. He also emphasized a comment from last week on Sojourner Truth made by Ms. Fredia Butler. **Ms. Joanne Warwick** advocates for Medicare for all. Ms. Warrick was informed that she is prohibited from using the Board's meeting forum for political purposes, and she claimed her First Amendment rights were being violated. She also inquired about the housing unit at the Detroit Detention Center (DDC). **Assistant Chief James E. White** responded the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) administers the facility. **Ms. Michelle George** discussed the urgency for police salary increases. She has met with Senator Gary Peters and DPOA President Craig Miller regarding this matter. She also inquired about the Department's protective measures on police equipment for the Coronavirus COVID-19.

Adjournment:

Chairperson Carter recognized Commissioner Bell. **Commissioner Bell** moved for adjournment. **Commissioner Holt** seconded. Discussion. **Results:** Motion Approved.

Chairperson Carter adjourned the meeting at 4:54 PM.