

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: November 7, 2019 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

BOPC Vice Chair Eva Garza Dewaelsche called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 PM (November 7, 2019)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance		
	Attend	Not-Attend
Lisa Carter, Chairperson	Excused	
Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Vice Chairperson	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown (3:05 PM)	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton (3:05 PM)	Yes	
William M. Davis (3:05 PM)	Yes	
Evette Griffie	Excused	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Annie Mae Holt	Excused	
Quorum (Yes)	8	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for November 7, 2019.

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes: Thursday, October 31, 2019.

BOPC Vice Chairperson Eva Garza Dewaelsche, opened the meeting and said Good Afternoon! I am Police Commissioner Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Vice Chair of the Board, and I will be conducting our meeting today. Chairperson Lisa Carter will not be attending today’s meeting. On behalf of the Board, we thank you for attending our meeting or viewing this meeting on your government cable channel.” Chaplain Charles Bailey provided the invocation. Vice Chairperson Dewaelsche requested introductions of Commissioners, BOPC and DPD staff and others.

Vice Chairperson’s Report: Vice Chair 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 concerns for officer safety and citizen protection are the two most important priorities of the Board. We receive a weekly report of injured officers, and I ask the Chief of Police to provide us with any additional information during his report. The Board of Police Commissioners meets every week at 3:00 p.m. at DPD Headquarters except for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday weeks. 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 Board investigates non-criminal citizen complaints, monitors the Department for compliance with all laws, and reviews and modifies police policy to eliminate misconduct, discriminatory police practices and unnecessary use of force by police. As a civilian oversight agency, we protect the civil rights of citizens. Our objective is to increase the quality of life for residents and visitors to Detroit.

I want to point to several important items for your consideration and information. The office will be closed on Monday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day. During Veterans Day we acknowledge the contributions and sacrifices of all veterans, during war and in peace. Veterans Day is also a reminder that all Americans contribute to active service duty. According to the Pew Research Center, in a 2015 report on active duty personnel in the military, 40% of the Defense Department’s active duty military were minority service men and women. The Latino share of this figure is 12%, African American figure is 17%, and the Asian figure is 4%. Each of these ethnic and racial minority groups have and continues to participate in the defense of our country. Again, this acknowledgement is for veterans who contributed to military operations during war as well as peace time.

Just a reminder that the Board does not require anyone to identify themselves as a pre-condition to participate in our meetings. I also want to remind the Board that we have confirmed the Michigan Municipal League’s Board training on parliamentary procedures and the Open Meetings Act to be held on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the BOPC conference room.

Included in your board packet, which was emailed to you on Tuesday and is provided in a hard copy today, is the meeting agenda, minutes, various reports, and a second report on Facial Recognition from DPD's Crime Intelligence Unit, Captain Aric Tosqui. We plan to share with the Chief our written revisions to the facial recognition report that we believe will enhance the communications and reporting process, and ensure that the report conforms to the policy directive on facial recognition.

Today, we have one resolution for Corporal Sidney C. Bragg a 42 year veteran of the Detroit Police Department which we will read into the record to honor Corporal Bragg's many years of dedicated service. We also have one presentation on CompStat which, in law enforcement, stands for 'Computer Statistics' dealing specifically with crime. It was developed in the 1990s by the New York Police Department to help understand the geographic location of crime and to incorporate important information on time, methods and other factors used to better deploy police personnel to fight crime. Our goal is to better understand how CompStat is currently utilized by the Department. Captain John Svec of Investigative Operations will be presenting.

Under the Chief's Report, I am requesting an update on our city-wide crime statistics and any critical issues facing the Department.

At the end of the meeting, we will have public comments, so please make sure you print your name on a speaker's card located on the back table or obtained from Mr. Robert Brown. We need your card to be submitted before the end of the Chief of Police Report, and each speaker will be allotted 2 minutes to speak. Please place your cell phones and other electronic devices on vibrate to avoid disruptions to our meeting. Finally, I would like to encourage cooperation and order at our meetings. As discussed in the past, we need to treat each other with respect and professionalism. Commissioners must be recognized by the Chair in order to speak. And I ask that Commissioners restrict their comments to issues that are relevant to the agenda and to be brief to allow ample time for public comments. For the attending audience, please note there is time on the agenda for citizen input and feedback. We want to run an orderly meeting including public comments and adjourn by 4:30 PM.

Resolution: Corporal Sidney C. Bragg (retired).

Chair Dewaelsche recognized Commission Elizabeth Brooks. Commissioner Brooks read into the record a resolution honoring the 42 year service history of Corporal Sidney C. Bragg

RESOLUTION HONORING RETIRING CORPORAL SIDNEY C. BRAGG

WHEREAS Sidney C. Bragg was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on December 19, 1977. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Police Officer Bragg began his career at the First Precinct Patrol Operation Section; and

WHEREAS He dutifully served the First Precinct Patrol Operation Section, Twelfth Precinct, and Traffic Enforcement. Police Officer Bragg displayed tremendous diligence and aptitude in his assignments. On October 18, 2018, he was promoted to the rank of Corporal and continued to serve at Traffic Enforcement until his retirement; and

WHEREAS During his law enforcement career, Corporal Bragg along with another officer, were the first certified motorcycle instructors for the Department. He was the deserving recipient of a Chief Merit Award, Perfect Attendance Award, Perfect Driving Award, both Consent Judgment Awards, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, and the Harvey Relief Award, as well as commendations from supervisors, and numerous letters of appreciation from citizenry; and

WHEREAS Corporal Bragg has tirelessly served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit and its neighboring communities for 42 years. A remarkable milestone in any career, four decades of law enforcement duty merit special appreciation for Corporal Bragg. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity, and dedication have been a credit to the Detroit Police Department. He is highly respected 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, awards this resolution in recognition of Corporal Sidney Bragg's 42 years of dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and lifelong commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards. We thank and congratulate you, Corporal Sidney C. Bragg.

Chair Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Brooks. Commissioner Brooks moved approval of the resolution honoring the service of Corporal Sidney Bragg, Second, Burch. Discussion.

Motion by: Brooks Second by: Burch Vote: Yes=8, No=0 Abst.=0 Results: Motion Approved.

COP Police Report: Chief of Police, James Craig. COP Craig reported crime and statistical data utilizing DPD Department report dated November 7, 2019. Craig reported year-to date data by category including, 3% increase in Criminal Homicides, Sexual Assaults 2% decrease, Aggravated Assaults -5% decrease, non-fatal shootings 3% increase, Robbery -3% increase, Carjacking -22% decrease, Burglary -8% decrease, Larceny -3% decrease, Stolen Vehicle 5% increase and Part 1 offenses -2% decrease.

Presentation to the Board: (A) CompStat Captain John Svec presented CompStat by outlining the command personnel and the broad operations of the CompStat software including illustrating various types of maps used in the normal CompStat workup.

Report from Secretary to the Board: Mr. Hicks reported on four items listed on the agenda under the Secretary to the Board's Report including (1) Facial Recognition, Report #2 report 11-4-2019 from DPD (2 Detroit Elected Official Compensation Commission minutes and communication from Corporation Counsel (11-5-2019 (3) correspondence from Director Christopher Graveline, DPD professional Standards update on Board request for disciplinary data, and (4) Electronic mail and Petition in support of NPO Sam Balogun taken from BOPC website.

Unfinished Business: The Chair recognized Commissioner Jim Holley. Commissioner Jim Holley requested a resolution to honor the life of John Conyers, Jr. for the next meeting of the Board and an invitation to the family of the late U. S. Representative John Conyers, Jr.

New Business: Chair recognized Commissioner Brown. Commissioner Brown inquired as to a legal opinion on the Board's appointment and hiring authority. The Chair directed the Attorney for the Board to provide a response to the questions asked noting the likelihood that the Board Attorney has already provide information on the same set of issues. The Chair recognized Commissioner Burton. Commissioner Burton inquired based on the OIG report what action would be taken on Board Secretary Hicks. The Chair indicated the Board has 45 days in this matter.

Commissioner Burton moved for the suspension without pay for Board Secretary Gregory Hicks, effective immediately, until the Board investigates to terminate or not terminate, Mr. Hicks., Second, Brown. Discussion
Motion by: Burton Second by: Brown Vote: Yes=2, No=6 Abst. =0 Results: Motion Failed.

Announcements: Chair Carter, The next Community Meeting for November, 14, 2019 is scheduled at Second Grace United Methodist Church (6th precinct), 18700 Joy Road, Detroit, MI 48228 at 6:30 PM. The following months community meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2019 at 6:30 PM at Historic Little Rock Baptist Church, 9000 Woodward Avenue, Detroit MI 48202 - 3rd Police precinct.

Oral Comments / Public Comments: Ms. Karen Gordon addressed the issue of a past arrest of her by the Detroit Police Department. Ms. Gordon played audio recording of several statements of officers and citizen wherein she indicated the officers had lied and furthered inquired if the officers would be fired from the Department. Director of Professional Standards Graveline indicated that the officer involved in the case has left the Department and the case has been closed. Ms. Faith complimented the Board and the department for their professional behavior and their ability to assist people in need.

Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Bell. Commissioner Bell moved if there is no other business to come before the body, move adjournment. Commissioner Brooks, second.
Motion by: Bell Second by: Brooks Vote: Yes=8, No=0 Abst. =0 Results: Motion to Adjourn Approved.

Meeting Adjourned. 4:04 PM.