

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners

Date of Meeting: June 22, 2017 – 3:00 PM

Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

Chairman Willie Bell called the BOPC meeting to order at 3:00 PM (June 22, 2017)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Willie E. Bell, Chair	Yes	
Vacant, Vice Chair	N/A	
Elizabeth Brooks	Excused	
Willie E. Burton (3:20 PM)	Yes	
Lisa Carter (3:28 PM)	Yes	
Reginald Crawford	Yes	
Eva Dewaelsche	Excused	
Conrad Mallett	Excused	
Derrick Sanders	Yes	
Richard Shelby	Yes	
Bishop Edgar Vann	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	7	

The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for June 22, 2017.

The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:
Thursday, June 15, 2017

BOPC Officers Report(s): After welcome and opening remarks **Chairman Bell** asked Bishop Edgar Vann to provide the invocation. **Chairman Bell** asked the Commissioners in attendance to introduce themselves and add any comments to the record. Other elected officials, representatives and VIPs were also asked to identify themselves or their organizational affiliations. BOPC staff in attendance were also introduced. Bell also welcomed Assistant Chief Arnold Williams, representing Chief Craig to the meeting and invited him to introduce his staff.

Chairman Bell indicated he had no report and moved to the next agenda item, report from the Chief of Police.

Chief of Police Report. AC Arnold Williams reviewed CompStat data for the reporting period ending June 18, 2017. Craig reported Homicides percentage change between 2015 and 2016 of -5% decrease, Sexual Assaults -13% decrease, Robbery - 8% decrease, Carjacking +9% increase, Aggravated Assaults, -5% decrease, Non-fatal shooting, -2% decrease for an overall total of -6% decrease. Overall crime was reported as trending downward. AC Williams also reported on the Ford Fireworks deployment for Monday, June 26, 2017. Included in his report was a curfew imposed by the Riverfront Conservancy.

Commissioner Bell and Vann inquired about the authority of the private organization, the Riverfront Conservancy's ability to impose a curfew or exclusionary policy in public space. **AC Williams** indicated he would get an answer to Vann's question and get back to the Board. Bell also suggested that the Board hear from the Riverfront Conservancy on their understanding of their authority to impose curfews in public spaces. Equally Vann voiced his concerns about the accessibility and the affordability of citizens to participate in activity in the downtown area as well as the image projected about young families. **Commissioner Crawford** raised concerns about two Detroits. **Commissioner Burton** asked if the Department planned to notify citizens about staging areas. **Commissioner Vann** reported on a traffic stop following the last police Commission meeting (June 15, 2017). Commissioner Vann inquired about the protocol, procedures and level of compliance a citizen is required to do in connection with traffic stops. Vann indicated,

"After leaving here from our meeting last Thursday. I was stopped by a Detroit Police on Woodward in front of the City-County building. As I attempted to make a left turn there, there were a number of pedestrians walking across. The young

officer who pulled me over stated he thought I ran the red light. I allowed the people who were in the intersection, as I was in the intersection to finish walking across the street, and then I completed my turn.

The question I want to ask is about protocol of a Traffic Stop? What is the extent to which based on what we seen throughout the nation, Philando Castile and other types of things, there is a great deal of paranoia by citizens who are stopped by the police. As to what extent do the police have the authority to give you all kinds of different things to comply to

I was told to roll down my windows, which I did. Put my keys on top of the car, this is in broad daylight, with many, many people downtown, right in front of the City-County building, I am leaving a Police Commission meeting. I complied of course, I was very courteous to the officer.

He got out of the car, pull his gun, placed his gun on his chest, and walked to my car, after I had lowered my windows. I can see how someone would take that differently as an aggressive move by a police officer. That frighten the citizen and made the citizen believe they were in danger. I was just leaving a Police meeting hoping that I was not in danger. But I did not believe, that for a simple traffic stop that a gun should have be pulled on me. That did not happen to me before. And I would like some explanation of what the protocol is? Can the officer take whatever measures they want to take with a person? Or does a person, the driver have any rights at all, especially when they are complying. Had not posed a threat, pulled straight over, rolled down my window, done everything else that I should have done." (Video stamp 18:30 to 21:35)

AC Williams indicated "there was not such things as a typical or simple traffic stop" and discussed variations and consideration in the minds of officers during traffic stops. AC Williams outlined traffic stop procedures and the Department's No chase policy. Williams indicated his concern about the weapon. Williams also discussed the heightened threatening environment that officers today must perform while doing their duty. **Chairman Bell** indicated that as a former police officer with hundreds of traffic stops the current environment for officers in the performance of their duty is about the same as they were when he was on the job. Bell illustrated several encounters that the public had with police and how it is his view that the environment has improved or is about the same. **Commissioner Crawford** raised the issue of a traffic stop involving a retired lieutenant and an encounter with another Lieutenant. **Commissioner Sanders** also raised a concern about a traffic stop with two Detroit Police Officers suggesting "they the officers involved in his encounter) needed to take it down a notch." **Commissioner Bell** concluded by saying "This was not a typical traffic stop." **Commissioner Crawford** also discussed a recent study of traffic stops and the implications found in that study on racial differences in the enforcements of traffic operations. **AC William** also indicated the Department consistently pulls videos of random traffic stops and monitor the behavior of the force. Williams indicated this was a practice that pre-dated body cameras and other technologies. **Commissioner Bell** also suggested a difference in the approach and appearance of different Departments and discussed the motivation of black police officers to correct some of the injustices of years ago. Bell concluded by saying that there has been a certain style of police practices that has been exposed in recent years and again, this traffic stop was not a usual traffic stop. This Board must take a stand to ensure no return to abuses or bad practices like those resolved under the consent decree.

Presentation to the Board: DPD Grants and Contract Unit. Bell moved the agenda and introduced the next presentation on Grants & Contracts. **Ms. Kelly Russell, Supervisory for DPD Grants and Contracts.** Ms. Russell also indicated she has a team of two grant coordinators. Ms. Russell gave an overview of the Grants and Contracts Unit, its planning, program administration, data analysis and internal controls functions. She also discussed enhanced compliance and the need to maximize revenues and other resources for the Department. Ms. Russell also discussed the organization chart associated with Grants and Contracts Unit as well as a strategy map which is used to oversee Grants and Contracts. Ms. Russell also discussed the Grant Lifecycle, the current grant portfolio and geographical focus of various grant programs. Commissioner Vann indicated in the past grants were submitted to the Board, he inquired why this is no longer the case. **Ms. Lisa Jones, DPD CFO** responded to her knowledge of the history of the submission process and indicated in the future grants will be submitted to the Board for review upon seeking the grants and after the award of the grants.

BOPC Standing and Ad hoc Committee Reports: No Reports.

Report from the Board Secretary: Mr. Hicks reported on seven communications into the Board directing attention to the Board agenda including a transmittal to the Department from Mr. Peter Roades in connection with downtown sports and entertainment reimbursements.

Old Business. Commissioner Crawford addressed the Board on the recent towing issues and restated he has no relationship with or accepts any money from anyone in the tow industry.

Announcements:

Next Meeting, Thursday, June 29, 2017 @ 3:00 PM, Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St. 3rd Floor, Detroit, MI, 48226.

Next Community Meeting, Thursday, July 13, 2017, the Boys and Girls Club of Southeastern Michigan, 4242 Collingwood, Detroit MI. 48204.

Oral Communications from the Audience:

William Davis, recounts he remembers the STRESS days, but never thought he would be killed as a result of a police encounter. He indicated he has two sons and he is concerned about what appears to be open season to shoot young black men. **Sharon Sklar** expressed concerns about Balduck Park and how visitors are disrespecting neighbors and causing people to move from the area. Ms. Sklar also indicated she understands the issue related to the traffic stops, but wanted us to remember we have a very good friend hanging on the wall (memorial wall outside of the 3rd floor conference room). **Joan Fiore** addressed the Board and gave her background as a resident and real estate owner expressing her continued commitment to the city. **Anthony Thomas**, sole owner of B & G Towing wanted to introduce himself to the Board and respond to any questions should the Board have questions about his business. **Mat Bankcroft** indicated he is a 15 year employee of Boulevard & Trumbull Towing. He discussed the services provided by B & T Towing reminding the Board that many families in Detroit are supported by B & T Towing. Mr. Bankcroft concluded by indicating that B & T Towing is not just one person. **Paul Ott** with Gene Towing wanted to introduce himself to the Board as one of the city's towing companies. **Nicholas Bachand**, attorney for Boulevard & Trumbull Towing requested copies of two resolutions passed by the Board at its last meeting. Mr. Bachand also indicated that Gasper Fiore is not an owner or an official of B & T Towing for several months. Fiore resigned as a employee upon notification by the federal government of his indictment. **Chairman Bell** indicated in response that the Board passed two motions impacting towing. Bell also suggested request for the motions be made to the Board secretary and any legal matter related to B & T be addressed to Corporation Counsel for the City of Detroit. Further, Bell indicated if there was any other information he would like to share with the Board that he put it in written form. **Sharon Pannell** indicated DC Bettison had already spoke about the curfew answering her question.

Motion to Adjourn, no objections.

Adjourn.