

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2020 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters

BOPC Vice-Chairperson Eva Dewaelsche called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 PM (February 6, 2020)

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' 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	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Excused	
Willie E. Burton (3:22 p.m.)	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Evette Griffie (3:21 p.m.)	Yes	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Annie Mae Holt	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for Thursday, February 6, 2020.

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes: Thursday, January 30, 2020

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche stated, “Good afternoon, I am Police Commissioner Eva Garza Dewaelsche, Vice-Chair of the Board and will be conducting today’s meeting. On behalf of the Board, for those in attendance and viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for joining our meeting. Chairperson Carter and Commissioner Burch have asked to be excused. Today, we have invited Chaplain Mohammad Ali to provide the invocation.

INVOCATION: Chaplain Mohammad Ali provided the invocation.

Introduction of Commissioners

Business Items for Consideration:

- **Approval of the Agenda**
- **Approval Minutes for January 30, 2020**
- **Introduction of BOPC Staff**
- **Introduction of Chief of Police and DPD Staff**
- **Introduction of Elected Officials, VIPs, civic leaders or their representatives**

Vice-Chairperson’s Report:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche stated, “During February, we celebrate Black History month. Dating back to February 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the Founding Father of Black History Month, presented this vision of acknowledgment and recognition to ensure that African American history and experiences were also taught in our educational systems. Today, African Americans as well as other minorities continue to fight to ensure that our stories are shared accurately, justly, and consistently. As Dr. King notably said, “Black History is American History.” And Marcus Garvey said, “A person without knowledge of their history, origin, and culture is like a tree without roots.”

As we reflect on significant achievements in Black History, we are reminded of the late Detroit Mayor Coleman Alexander Young, who was a visionary leader for African Americans and also for this great City. As part of his mayoral platform, Mayor Young condemned police misconduct, specifically disbanding a unit called STRESS (Stop the Robberies Enjoy Safe Streets) within the Detroit Police Department in the early 1970s. This unit escalated the tensions and violence between the police department and the city’s residents. Tragically, this unit unlawfully killed 22 unnamed black men in a span of 2 ½ years. Fortunately, in 1973 Mayor Young disbanded STRESS, and the residents took a strong stance leading to the establishment of the Detroit Board of Police

Commissioners. It is important to acknowledge and honor those heroes who paved the way and fought for equal rights, human rights, and basic fundamental constitutional rights. We salute Mayor Coleman A. Young and the establishment of the Board of Police Commissioners and all those who have volunteered and served on this board. We urge you to take the time during Black History month and every day to reflect on those persons who have made a significant impact on our lives.

As we do every week, 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, including the agenda, minutes from our last meeting, and various reports.

Today we have one formal presentation from Communications Operations presented by Captain Melissa Gardner, and her team. They will provide critical information relating to the Department's Emergency Services Deployment Operations and police response times.

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 yesterday's officer-involved shooting incident, the recent group of stunt drivers who took to the streets again after Super Bowl Sunday, and any other critical incidents. Additionally, I am requesting an update on City Council's Proposed Updated City Ordinance on City Services by Council Member Raquel Castañeda-López and the associated impact on the DPD and its policies prohibiting Bias-Based Policing and Discrimination. Lastly, I am requesting an update on the Department's recently initiated Recruiting Campaign.

Under Interim Board Secretary's Report, Ms. White will provide us with various updates regarding incoming correspondence.

Under Unfinished Business, the Detroit Charter Revision Commission is seeking our recommendations for the upcoming revised charter. Additionally, a request from former Officer Jerome Collins to re-open his Disciplinary Case from 2011 must also be considered. I will ask for a vote on both items at the appropriate time.

Also, the Board is still reviewing and evaluating policies and procedures to determine the process to post for the positions of Secretary to the Board and Executive Manager of Fiscal for the Board of Police Commissioners. In your packets last week, you received hard copies and electronic copies of the draft job postings that will require a final vote from the Board before posting. Board members were asked to submit revisions to Ms. White by today. A vote on this item will take place next Thursday, February 13, 2020, for a final decision. Additionally, I have asked Dr. Anderson, Human Resources Director, to provide us with a summary of the procurement process for posting the job's vacancies.

To help improve the quality of life in neighborhoods, Commissioner Burch has been working with Chief Craig and Deputy Chief Bettison to develop signs at precincts toward this effort. Today, Commissioner Davis has brought "Love Where You Live" signs to the meeting on behalf of Commissioner Burch for each Commissioner to use (voluntarily). Also, Commissioner Burch with DPD cooperation is having them posted in precincts. Thank you for your work on this, Commissioner Burch and Commissioner Davis.

This afternoon, we have a closed session regarding the Chief's Request for an Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits for Police Officer Deshawn Lott, 4913, assigned to the Eighth Precinct.

Prior to going into closed session, we will have public comments. 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 the end of the Chief of Police's Report. We will hold each speaker to the allotted (2) minutes.

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, 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."

Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police's Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information: Deputy Chief Todd Bettison:

Deputy Chief Bettison reported on the following: Officers Critically Injured in the Line of Duty, CompStat Crime and Statistical Data for the reporting period ending February 3, 2020, recent critical incidents impacting the Detroit Police Department and the community, and the Proposed Updated City Ordinance on City Services developed by Council Member Raquel Castañeda-López prohibiting bias-based policing and discrimination by City of Detroit Employees and Detroit Police Department members.

CompStat Data Provided: (See Full Report)							
Part I Violent Crimes:	Criminal Homicides:	Sexual Assaults:	Aggravated Assaults:	Non-Fatal Shootings:	Robbery:	Carjacking:	Total % Part I Violent Crimes
Totals:	56% Increase	11% Decrease	4% Increase	18% Increase	21% Increase	36% Increase	7% Increase
Property Crimes:	Burglary:	Larceny:	Motor Vehicle Thefts:	Total % Property Crimes			
Totals:	15% Decrease	1% Decrease	8% Increase	2% Decrease			

Deputy Chief Bettison also provided the following update on the recent Officer-Involved Shooting that occurred during a traffic stop investigation on the eastside, where a black male passenger exited the vehicle, fled on foot, later shooting at three (3) Detroit Police Department officers. The officers returned fired and struck the perpetrator in the leg and the lower back and later continued firing. Officers were later able to apprehend the suspect. Witnesses at the scene confirmed the officers' account of what occurred. The gun was recovered. The perpetrator is listed in temporary serious condition (stable) per the hospital. No officers were injured. The Department is also currently reviewing Body-Worn Camera footage of the incident. Additionally, the Department's preliminary investigation revealed the suspect had an extensive criminal history. Regarding the recent Stunt Drivers' incident, the Department is working with a group of leaders from the Drifters' community and is attempting to identify a location to accommodate this activity. The Department will provide the Board with further information at a later date. **Deputy Chief Bettison** also identified policy that prohibits engaging in police pursuits for traffic violations. **Deputy Chief Bettison** updated the Board regarding the news story, "Suspect: Detroit Police Looking for a Barricaded Gunman" where it was later revealed that there was no barricaded gunman incident. **Deputy Chief Grant Ha** updated the Board regarding City Council's Updated Proposed Ordinance on City Services. The ordinance prohibits any city employee from disparagingly treating someone based on a constitutionally protected class, such as national origin, race, and gender, etc. Additionally, the proposed ordinance also includes English proficiency to the list of categories for protection.

Commissioner Davis asked about the increase in homicide and carjacking crime statistic numbers. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about the policy regarding motorists displaying electronic motor vehicle insurance and officers failing to accept electronic information. **Commissioner Burton** asked whether distributing gun safety locks is a good approach to decreasing gun violence in the City of Detroit. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** inquired about the article discussing suicides in police departments nationwide. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** complimented the written article and noted Captain Lashanna Potts, who was featured in the article. **Commissioner Burton** asked how the Department is tracking and monitoring officers' stress. **Commissioner Holt** thanked Deputy Chief Bettison for scheduling a meeting with Commander Patterson, assigned to the Eighth Precinct, and an alleged E911 incident

occurring in her precinct. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** thanked George Hunter for his work on the written article regarding law enforcement officers' suicide rate. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** also announced the upcoming graduation ceremony.

Presentation to the Board: Communications Operations' Presentation: Captain Melissa Gardner, Communications Operations, Detroit Police Department: (PowerPoint Presentation Available Online)

Captain Gardner presented on Communications Operations, which included information on the following units: 911 Call Center, Police Dispatch, Notification and Control, Police Dispatch, Keeper of the Records, Message Center, Telephone Crime Reporting Unit, and Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Training (QA/QI).

Commissioner Griffie commended Captain Gardner on the Communications Operations' Presentation. She further inquired about the number of call representatives, the attrition rate, starting wage, performance rate as of today, and the training process and training updates. **Commissioner Holley** inquired further about the overall training process of Communications Operations employees before full deployment as a Communications Operations employee. **Commissioner Holley** also inquired about language assistance for handling E911 calls for service. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** asked about the number of Hispanic and Arabic staff persons and the efforts to recruit at Communications Operations. **Commissioner Davis** asked about other communities the Communications Operations serves and whether there are fees associated with the services. **Commissioner Davis** inquired about the number of trunk lines located at the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters. **Deputy Chief Bettison** thanked Captain Gardner for her tremendous work and confirmed the Department would provide the Board with the number of trunk lines. **Commissioner Brown** inquired about Communications Operations' goals to have the "one-stop shop" where the initial call handler would handle all facets of the request for service and whether call takers are having to transfer the call for appropriate handling (i.e. whether the caller can receive the call and dispatch the call to police.). **Commissioner Holt** asked whether the public was allowed to visit the E911 Center to attend a tour. **Commissioner Holt** also inquired about whether the E911 Detroit were inoperable this past week. **Commissioner Griffie** asked whether the DPD has explored an option regarding citizens having the option to text E911.

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

1. Letter from Chief of Police James Craig Re: Detroit Police Basic Recruit Class 2020-B Graduation, February 14, 2020 at Second Ebenezer Church 14601 Dequindre, Detroit, MI 48212
2. Transmittal of Foot Pursuit Manual Directive 202.7
3. DPD Facial Recognition Report #14
4. Unbiased Provision of City Services Ordinance
5. EfficientGov Survey – The Impact of 911 Telecommunications on Family and Social Interactions
6. Request for Information Affidavit of Truth and Facts
7. Domestic Violence Data and Statistics

Unfinished Business:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Brown. **Commissioner Brown** stated the Board took a vote on the TJA Staffing Contract during last week's meeting, and expressed concern how the minutes were reflected for the outcome of the vote. He noted that there were (2) votes for yes and (2) votes for no, which would have resulted in the vote failing. **Commissioner Brown** stated the minutes neglected to include the (2) votes in support of the motion and that the motion purportedly failed. He also asked about the availability of the meeting's transcriptions for January 3, 2020. He also expressed that the Board should be acting accordingly with conducting due diligence in soliciting any company to perform any staff searches on behalf of the Board.

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Burton. **Commissioner Burton** expressed concern regarding the outcome of his challenging the TJA Staffing Vote during last week's Board meeting, the costs associated with the contract, and the purported conflict of interest concerns. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** recalled that the majority of the Commissioners voted in support of the TJA Staff Contract and further agreed that the Board would provide Commissioner Brown with the names of the Commissioners who voted in support of approving the TJA Staffing Contract.

Unfinished Business continued: Attorney Jermaine Wyrick presented the following reports: A.) The Detroit Charter Commission BOPC Recommendations; B.) Former Officer Jerome Collins's Request for Appeal of Disciplinary Case:

A.) The Detroit Charter Commission BOPC Recommendations:

MOTION: Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Bell. **Commissioner Bell** moved to table voting on the report pending updated formatting. **Commissioner Griffie** seconded. Discussion. **Commissioner Brown** clarified that he supports Committee Meetings, they should be openly scheduled, and opened to the public. **Motion approved.** The motion was unanimously approved. **Attorney Wyrick** noted the upcoming meeting with the Detroit Charter Revision Committee was Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED

B. Request from Former Officer Jerome Collins's to Reopen Disciplinary Case from 2011:

MOTION: Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Griffie. **Commissioner Griffie** moved to deny the request of former Officer Jerome Collins to reopen his disciplinary case. **Commissioner Bell** seconded. Discussion. **Commissioner Brown** stated that all of the relevant material pertaining to his case should be considered versus only statements submitted for review. **Commissioner Brown** requested that more information relating to similarly situated cases be considered to properly evaluate former Officer Jerome Collins's request. **Commissioner Griffie** noted that the former officer had the opportunity to come before the Board initially; however, decided to approach the Arbitrator; thereby, supporting the grounds upon which the motion was made. **Commissioner Bell** agreed, stating that the Arbitrator is a fact-finding body, the former officer had the opportunity to bring forth legal representation, the Trial Board dismissed the case, due process was afforded to the former officer, and Attorney's Wyrick's report was detailed revealing all parties' adjudication.

VOTE: Yes = 5 No = 3 Motion: APPROVED

Yes Votes: Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Dewaelsche, Commissioner Griffie, and Commissioner Holt.

Nay Votes: Commissioner Davis, Brown, and Burton.

Oral Comments/Public Comments:

Ms. Faith expressed concern regarding the development and training of the youth. **Ms. Beverly Singleton** spoke regarding a traffic stop and the officer not accepting her electronic proof of insurance displayed on her mobile phone. Ms. Singleton was referred to Officer Hewitt regarding the incident. **Ms. Michelle George** spoke about drag racing on Livernois, Corporal Jones's promotion, the need for police officers' beginning salary increase, and concern about E911 circuits being busy. **Commissioner Bell** responded there was a discussion with the Arbitrator regarding the Corporal Jones's matter and a ruling would be issued in a few weeks. **Mr. Scotty Bowman** indicated the City Charter states that the Board of Police Commissioners has the final authority on discipline matters. The Board has the final approval on promotions. Mr. Bowman also stated that he had met with the family of the individual involved in the Corporal Jones's incident, and she requested for him to ensure the incident never occurred with anyone else. He also expressed the need for more training and policy updates regarding the Department's Use of Force and Corporal Jones's incident. He also stated a Roll Call Vote should have been taken regarding the disputed motion on TJA Staffing from last week's meeting. **Ms. Valerie Glenn** spoke to Deputy Chief Bettison's comments, indicating that she was glad to hear that the rules were changed regarding officers' and police officials seeking assistance with stress and mental health concerns and all Board of Police Commissioners' Committee meetings should be published and open to the public.

Announcements: Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche announced the following:

- A. Next Meeting:** Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., in the Ninth Precinct, at Heilmann Recreation Center, 19601 Crusade Street, Detroit, MI 48205
- B. Next Community Meeting:** Thursday, March 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m., in the Downtown Services, at WCCCD Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus, Frank Hayden Community Room, Detroit, MI 48226.

New Business:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Brown. **Commissioner Brown** stated that he would like to have the Office of the Chief Investigator provide training to Eighth Precinct officers on "Think before You Speak," Citizen Complaint Training. He added that he and Commissioner Holt had met with Commander Patterson to schedule training for all three shifts starting March 4, 2020. **Commissioner Brown** stated that he would obtain a proposal for the sessions from the Chief Investigator, Dr. Polly McCalister.

Motion to Extend the Public Cut-Off Time to Accept Speaker's Cards up to One (1) Hour after the start of the Board of Police Commissioners' Meetings:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Burton. **Commissioner Burton** moved to extend the public cut-off time to accept speaker (public comments) cards one (1) hour after the start of the Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting, 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. respectively. **Commissioner Brown** seconded. Discussion. **Results:** Motion Unanimously Approved.

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED

Motion to go into Closed Session Regarding Chief of Police Request for Change of Duty Status to Administrative Leave Without Pay But With Medical Benefits for Police Officer Deshawn Lott, Badge 4913, Assigned to the Eighth Precinct:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Brown. **Commissioner Brown** moved to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel matters. **Commissioner Davis** seconded. Discussion. **Results:** Motion Unanimously Approved.

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED

Motion to Reconvene Public Meeting:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Holley. **Commissioner Holley** moved to reconvene the Public Meeting. **Commissioner Davis** seconded. **Results:** Motion Unanimously Approved.

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED

Motion to Approve Request for Change of Duty Status to Administrative Leave Without Pay But With Medical Benefits for Police Officer Deshawn Lott, Badge 4913, Assigned to the Eighth Precinct:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Griffie. **Commissioner Griffie** moved to support the Chief of Police Request for Change of Duty Status to Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits for Police Officer Deshawn Lott, Badge 4913, Assigned to the Eighth Precinct. **Commissioner Holt** seconded. Discussion. **Results:** Motion Unanimously Approved.

Roll Call Vote - Nine (9) Support Votes: Commissioner Holt, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Brooks, Commissioner Bell, Commissioner Griffie, Commissioner Holley, Commissioner Burton, Commissioner Brown, Vice Chairperson Dewaelsche.

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED

Update on the Procurement Process, Dr. Marcella Anderson, Director of Police Personnel:

Dr. Anderson provided the Honorable Board with copies of the Procurement Process regarding the staff search for Secretary to the Board. She also noted that Ms. Lena Willis is willing to appear before the Board on February 20, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. to explain the Procurement Process.

Adjournment:

Vice-Chairperson Dewaelsche recognized Commissioner Holley. **Commissioner Holley** moved for adjournment. **Commissioner Griffie** seconded. Discussion. **Results:** Motion Unanimously Approved.

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Motion: APPROVED

Vice Chairperson Dewaelsche adjourned the meeting at 5:14 pm.