

**Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners**

**Date of Meeting: March 16, 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 (March 16, 2017)**

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

**The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for March 16, 2017.**

**The Board acted in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:  
Thursday, March 9, 2017**

**BOPC Officers Reports(s):** After welcome and opening remarks **Chairman Bell** asked **DC Chaplin Avis Taylor** 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 VIP's were also asked to identify themselves or their organizational affiliations. BOPC staff in attendance were also introduced.

Chairman Bell also discussed **Non-Fatal Shooting of two Detroit Police Officers**, Wednesday Night (1) Benjamin Akinson, PO, (2) James Kisselburg, PO. Bell indicated the physical condition of both officers is reported to be stable. Bell also noted another shooting that occurred mid-day involving officers operating as part of a multi-jurisdictional task force. No specific details were available. The Chair also indicated the mother of **Harrison Tolliver** and former Commander **Tony Quinn** had recent passed.

Bell also made the following announcements, a) March 30, 2017 **Community Meeting re: Immigration** at LA SED Youth Center, 6:30 PM, (flyer included in Board package). Chair Bell recognized Commissioner Dewaelsche who provide greater detail on the March 30, 2017 Community Meeting to be held in southwest Detroit, including information on the BOPC panel of immigration experts and advocates, as listed below:

- **Dr. Augustine Arbulu, Director**, Michigan Department of Civil Rights
- **Chief James Craig**, Detroit Police Department
- **Council Member Raquel Castaneda-Lopez**, Detroit City Council
- **Adonis Flores**, Michigan United
- **Michael P. Nowlan**, Immigration Attorney, Clark Hill, PLC

The Chair's Report continued with an announcement of the March 17, 2017 **Graduation Class (2017-C)** at Greater Grace Temple, March 20, 2017, **Radio Patrol Appreciation and Recruitment Night**, 5:30 PM at the Redford Theater. Chairman Bell also noted two recent electronic correspondences directed to the attention of Commissioners (1) **Recommendations from staff on Body Worn Cameras (BWC)** and **Electronic Control Weapons (ECW)**. He indicated, we are interested in feedback, so we

can share this feedback with the Department. (2) **Recommendations from staff on CORE. Bell indicated**, please read this information as well for future consideration. Commissioner Dewaelsche also reported on a special program on March 24, 2017 titled **Women Behind the Badge**.

**Resolutions and Memorials:** Two resolutions were presented to the Board for action. Resolution read into the record for **Vannice Ward** by Vice Chairman Moore,

**RESOLUTION HONORING RETIRED  
POLICE OFFICER VANNICE WARD**

- WHEREAS** Mr. Vannice Ward was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on January 17, 1995 and upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Ward began his career assigned to the Ninth Precinct; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Ward assignments also included the Narcotics SE Section, Sixth Precinct, Major Violators, and Gang Task Force; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Ward was the deserving recipient of two (2) Chief's Unit Awards, one (1) Chief's Merit Award, one (1) Perfect Attendance Award, Perfect Driving Award, both Consent Judgment Awards, a Fireworks Award, 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** Officer Ward served the Detroit Police Department with integrity for 22 years and daily demonstrated his loyalty and dedication to the citizens of Detroit. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity and dedication has been a credit to the Detroit Police Department.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking on behalf of the Detroit Police Department and the citizens of the City of Detroit, recognize the devoted commitment to Public Safety of Officer Vannice Ward. His pride and dedication have been invaluable assets to the Department and merit our highest regard.

We thank and congratulate you, Police Officer Vannice Ward.

**DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

**Motion:** Motion to Honor Detroit **Police Officer Vannice Ward** offered by Commissioner Moore,

**Second:** (Mallett)

**Vote:** Yes = 7                      No = 0                      Abst = 0                      (Excused = 4)                      **Action: Approved**

Resolution honoring read into the record for **Investigator Suzette Sharper** by Commissioner Reginald Crawford,

**RESOLUTION HONORING  
INVESTIGATOR SUZETTE SHARPER**

- WHEREAS** Ms. Suzette Sharper was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on October 13, 1986. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Sharper was assigned to the Eighth Precinct; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Sharper faithfully and dutifully worked in numerous areas of the Department which included the Sixth Precinct, Narcotics Section, Twelfth Precinct, and Community Policing Division; and
- WHEREAS** Officer Sharper's upward career in law enforcement was demonstratively enhanced by her love for the city and its citizens. She was promoted to the rank of Investigator on March 21, 1997 and assigned to the Police Recruiting Section, where she remained until retirement; and
- WHEREAS** Investigator Sharper was the deserving recipient of one (1) Chief's Unit Award, one (1) Departmental Citation, three (3) Chief's Citations, her Firearms Qualification categories of over the last sixteen years are eight (8) Expert, fourteen (14) Sharpshooter and five (5) Marksman. She also received the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, and numerous letters of commendation from citizens and superiors.

**WHEREAS** Investigator Sharper has proven to be selfless and giving to the call of public safety. She will retire from the Department on March 24, 2017 with over 29 1/2 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Detroit.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners speaking on behalf of the citizens of the City of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department recognize and honor the life-long commitment of Investigator Sharper. She has devoted her life to public service and safety and has executed the duties of a remarkable officer. Your extraordinary efforts and selfless giving merits our highest regards.

We thank and congratulate you, Investigator Suzette Sharper.

**DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

**Motion:** Motion to Honor Detroit Police **Investigator Suzette Sharper** (Crawford), Crawford also recognized the long standing contribution of Investigator Sharper in the formation of African American Police Association.

**Second:** (Moore)

**Vote:** Yes = 7                      No = 0                      Abst = 0                      (Excused = 4)                      **Action: Approved**

**Chief of Police Report:** Representing Chief James Craig was **DC Renee Hall** (COP Craig joined the meeting later). DC Hall introduced members of the Department and summarized DPD CompStat data for March 5, 2017, discussed the Year to Date Comps for Homicide (4% increase), Non-Fatal Shootings (1% increase), Sexual Assault (-3% decrease), Carjacking (-2% decrease). DC Hall also gave additional information on the recent shootings of DPD personnel.

**Presentations to the BOPC Board: Chief of Police Improvement Plan.**

**AC James White** read into the record the executive overview of DPD's Police Improvement Plan. AC White indicated the Improvement Plan, 78 page document, the DPD Annual Report, a 100 page document and DPD response to the Survey created by BOPC to measure the implementation of the 2014 Plan of Action, a 60 page document would be delivered to the Board. Chairman Bell inquired of the three documents which are required by Charter? White's response two. **DC Washington** also addressed the Board, asking if the Board had copies of the Final Order from Judge Cohen releasing the Department from the DOJ Consent Agreement. Washington indicated she would provide the Board with a copy of the same. **Chairman Bell** also inquired as to the follow-up of the complaints of several citizens who complained about the demeanor of Officer Knox.

**Commissioner Mallett** inquired about the follow-up of Citizen Complaints from the work of the Office of the Chief Investigator and requested copies of reports associated with disciplinary actions by the Chief.

**BOPC Standing and Ad hoc Committee Reports: No Reports.**

**Board Secretary Report: Mr. Hicks** restated the notification given to the Department for each of the reports referred to by AC James White. Hicks indicated the schedule of the Board's meeting was completed at the end of last year and shared with the Department. Two of the three reports were identified as Charter requirements.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business: Commissioner Crawford** inquired as to a report of an officer charged with a felony in Ypsilanti, Mi. No information was provided.

**Announcement:** Next Meeting, March 23, 2017, 3:00 PM at Detroit, Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Detroit, MI 49226

Next Community Meeting: March 30, 2017, @ 6:30 PM to be held at the LA SED Youth Center, located at 7150 W. Vernor Hwy (48209).

**Oral Communications:** **Peter Rhoads**, expressed his concerns about Wayne County taking over patrol and security enforcement arrangements at downtown sporting events. **Bernice Smith** indicated she had important information about the recent police shooting and would share the information after the meeting. **Fredia Butler** acknowledged DC Hall and her contribution to the force and expressed her concern about federal efforts to reduce or eliminate laws that made it more difficult for people with mental illness to obtain guns. Butler also expressed her concerns about the Board's vote on DOPA President Mark Diaz.

**Chairman Bell** accepted a Motion to adjourn at 4:29 PM. Meeting Adjourned.