

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners

Date of Meeting: February 15, 2018 – 3:00 PM

Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, MI 48226

Chairperson Lisa Carter called the BOPC meeting to order at 3:00 PM (February 15, 2018)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Lisa Carter, Chairperson	Yes	
Eva Dewaelsche, Vice Chairperson	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Excused	
Darryl D. Brown	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton (3:20 PM)	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Conrad Mallett, Jr.	Yes	
Derrick Sanders	Yes	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for February 15, 2018.

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes:
Thursday, February 8, 2018**

BOPC Officers Report(s): After welcoming attendees to the meeting **the Chair requested a moment of silence in honor of fallen Detroit Police Officer Darren Weathers, Badge #4644.**

Chairperson Lisa Carter asked Rev. Nathan Johnson, D.D., Senior Pastor, Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church to provide the invocation. Good Afternoon. I am Police Commissioner Lisa Carter, Chairperson for the Board. I also represent District #6. On behalf of the Board, thank you for attending today's Board meeting. Our City and DPD experienced another great loss since our last meeting, and I would like you to join me in a MOMENT OF SILENCE in honor of fallen Officer Darren Weathers, Badge #4644.

Chairperson Carter 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. Carter also welcomed AC James White, representing Chief of Police James E. Craig to the meeting and invited him to introduce DPD staff.

Chairperson Lisa Carter said "On behalf of the Board, I want to express our concern and support for fallen and injured officers. The city is still mourning the death of Officer Darren Weathers. I would ask the Chief during his remarks to provide us with any additional information related to injured and fallen officers. Additionally, the Department had several high profile cases, one of which involved a citizen's death while in police custody, and others related to deaths associated with barricaded gunman. In these encounters, I understand that 2 DPD officers were shot along with 1 Detroit Public Schools Officer shot. Also in this incident, 3 women were killed. Chief, I would ask you to elaborate on these cases as part of your report.

Yesterday, the nation was again shocked by the violent act of a social misfit with an automatic weapon. In Florida, 17 people were killed, 15 injured. According to Mass Shooting Tracker, a data collection service that provides data to several national news outlets, 42 mass shootings have occurred between January 1 and February 14, 2018. Of these reported mass shootings they have resulted in 82 deaths and 143 injuries. Based on the information it is clear that we have real problems nationally in the

use of guns as exemplified by the 42 mass shooting this year. As a Police Commissioner and a parent, I feel this must stop. I understand that staff has prepared a resolution to voice our concerns in this area.

Today, we have two presentations. First the Chief's office will report on the Annual Report on the operations of the Department. The second an update on the BOPC website. Under New Business, we will also take up a resolution to voice our concerns about gun violence. Ms. Blossom will read that resolution. Toward the end of the meeting, we will have oral communications from the audience, so if you would like to speak to the Board, please make sure you print your name on a speaker's card. Cards are located in the back on the table or can be obtained by seeing Mr. Robert Brown, and he needs your card before the beginning of public comments.

Resolutions:

Commissioner Darryl Brown read into the record a resolution honoring the service of **Lieutenant Charles Clark** (Retired)

RESOLUTION HONORING LIEUTENANT CHARLES CLARK

WHEREAS Mr. Charles Clark was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on January 4, 1994 upon successfully graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy. He began his lifelong public service career at the Eighth Precinct; and

WHEREAS Officer Clark displayed tremendous knowledge and leadership skills as a Police Officer and was promoted to the rank of Investigator on May 21, 1999. As Investigator, he served in the Eighth Precinct and the Sixth Precinct Investigative Operations Unit (IOU); and

WHEREAS On February 6, 2004, Investigator Clark was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and reassigned to the Sixth Precinct Investigative Operations Unit, the First Precinct Investigative Operations Unit, First Precinct Investigative Operations Division, and Homicide; and

WHEREAS Sergeant Clark was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on January 17, 2014 and was assigned to Third Precinct Police Detective Unit. His assignments also included the Homicide, and the Seventh Precinct where he served until his retirement; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Clark was the deserving recipient of the following awards: Chief Citation, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, the Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, and four Perfect Attendance Awards, as well as numerous letters of commendation from citizens and superiors; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Clark retired from the Department on August 11, 2017 after twenty-three years of loyal service. 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 recognize and honor the contributions and commitment to excellence in public service of Lieutenant Charles Clark. 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 Charles Clark.

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Willie Bell read into the record a resolution honoring the service of **Albert Yasso** (Retired)

RESOLUTION HONORING LIEUTENANT ALBERT YASSO

WHEREAS Mr. Albert Yasso was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on January 17, 1995. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Yasso began his career at the Eleventh Precinct Patrol Operation Section (POS); and

WHEREAS Officer Yasso dutifully served the Eleventh Precinct Patrol Operation Section, and the Office of the Chief. On November 9, 2001, he was promoted to the rank of Investigator and reassigned back to the Eleventh Precinct Investigative Operation Unit (IOU); and

WHEREAS Investigator Yasso served with unwavering commitment and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on November 4, 2002, and assigned to the Thirteenth Precinct Patrol Operation Section, and Technical Support; and

WHEREAS Sergeant Yasso was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on November 22, 2013 and assigned to the Twelfth Precinct, Ninth Precinct Investigative Operation Unit, and was subsequently assigned to Detroit Detention Center where he remained until his retirement; and

WHEREAS During his law enforcement career, Lieutenant Yasso received the following awards: the NFL Super Bowl XL Recognition Award, the Rosa Parks Funeral Recognition Award, the Major League Baseball All-Star Recognition Award, Officer of the Month Award and numerous Letters of Appreciation; and

WHEREAS Lieutenant Yasso has diligently served the Detroit Police Department, the citizens of Detroit and its neighboring communities for more than 23 years. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity, and dedication has 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, award this resolution in recognition of the lifelong commitment to public safety by Lieutenant Albert Yasso. Your exemplary service to law enforcement has been an invaluable asset to the Department and merit our highest regards.

We salute and congratulate you, Lieutenant Albert Yasso.

Commissioner Eva Dewaelsche read into the record a resolution honoring the life of **Police Officer Darren Weathers, Badge 4644, (Posthumously)**

**RESOLUTION HONORING POLICE OFFICER DARREN WEATHERS
(Posthumously)**

WHEREAS Mr. Darren Weathers was born on April 25, 1992 in Detroit, Michigan. Upon graduating from Crockett High School he enrolled in Marygrove College. After a short time at Marygrove he decided to follow in his father footsteps and joined the Military (The United States Army) and was Honorable Discharged. Darren met Keisha, his lovely wife and together they produced Nyla their beautiful daughter; and

WHEREAS Darren Weathers was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on June 29, 2016. Upon graduating from the Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Weathers began his career at the Second Precinct, and later was assigned to the Integrity Bureau. On Tuesday, February 13, 2018, Police Officer Darren Weathers, badge 4644 passed away; and

WHEREAS During his law enforcement career, Officer Weathers was the deserving recipient of a Life Saving Citation and Medal, DPD Medal and Citation for Valor, a Memorial Medal of Honor and received several letters of commendation from his superiors; and

WHEREAS Officer Weathers passionately served the Detroit Police Department, and the citizens of Detroit. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity, and dedication were a credit to the Detroit Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, award this resolution posthumously in recognition of Police Officer Darren Weathers for his dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and standard of commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

We salute you Officer Darren Weathers for a job well done.

MOTION: Commissioner Eva Dewaelsche moved the three resolutions, honoring Detroit Police Officer Darren Weathers, Badge #4644 (Posthumously), Charles Clark (Retired) and Albert Yasso (Retired).

Second, Sanders

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

COP Police Report: AC James White reported on crime continuing to trend downward. AC White reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending February 11, 2018. White reported Homicides percentage change between 2016 and 2017 of -14% decrease, Sexual Assaults -7% increase, Robbery -30% decrease, Carjacking -13% decrease, Aggravated Assaults -2% decrease, non-fatal shootings -22% decrease, Burglary -39% decrease, Larceny -13% decrease, Stolen Vehicle -31% decrease and Part 1 offenses -19% decrease. AC White reported on historically tragic events within the department. AC White provided an

update on Officers Waldis Johnson, PO Anthony Brown, PO James Kisselburg all recovering or in rehabilitation, PO Windquist, Atkinson and Bentley returned to work. Marroquin is recovering at home. **PO Glenn Doss** and **PO Darren Weathers** fallen in the line of duty. AC White reported on a 24 hour barricaded gunman incident where three officers were shot (2 DPD – Smith, Tyus, 1 DPS, F. Wilson), each in the legs. White reported the suspect in this situation took his own life. The investigation is still ongoing. Lt. Sean Westley of Communications experienced a heart attack and is hospitalized. **Commissioner Brown** inquired about support to officers during these difficult times. **Acting Personnel Director, Bridget LaMar** reported on EAP peer support and critical incident debriefing support for the officers involved. **Commissioner Burch** asked about programs for officers in advance of incidents to relieve stress. AC White discussed the impact of the Department's span of control (10 to 1) and the front line management wherein Command can make observations relative to changed behavior of officers as an indicator that a officers may be in trouble. **Burch** also suggested mandatory counseling. **Commissioner Bell** cautioned about making statement about incidents before statements are released.

Presentations to the Board (A) Chief of Police Annual Report on the Operations of the Department (B) BOPC Website update.

(A) Chief of Police Annual Report on the Operations of the Department Lieutenant Russell, Crime Intell and Sergeant Romell reported that committee has published two successful reports 2015 focused on Patrol, 2016 Focused on Command and 2017 Report will focus on community leaders and partnerships. Print is expected late April and distribution early May, 2018. Commissioner Mallett asked the Board Secretary if there are specific requirements in the Charter that governs the content of the Annual Report. Mr. Hicks indicated that the Charter indicated the Report is a report on the operations of the department and improvements in the Department. Hicks also indicated such a report would include span of control, improvements related to new technology, interaction between units and other associated items. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** commend the Department for focusing the report on the community and recruitment.

B) BOPC Website update. BOPC Media Outreach and Community Coordinator Teresa Blossom and City of Detroit Webmaster Melanie Weaver reported on upgrades to the BOPC website all designed to create more of a direct point of information and easy access for citizens. The new website has new maneuverability including a dashboard for citizen complaints, more convenient tabs and buttons to help navigation in the website. The site also has an update in Commissioner biographical information, an interactive district map as well as a more visible link to policy drafts, PSA and Spotlights and OCI information. The site also has a more manageable internet address, detroitmi/bopc.

BOCP Standing Committee Reports: None

Commissioner Bell provided special recognition for Black History Month, Inspector **Billy Willis**. Bell indicated that on November 30, 2011, Billy Willis was the first female elevated to the rank of Commander (12th Police Precinct). Willis was part of the Women's Division and was a classmate of Mary Jarrett Jackson. Both women have made outstanding contribution to the Department. Commander Willis is deceased.

Report from the Board Secretary. Mr. Hicks indicated the office had received three communications/reports, each listed on the agenda. Hicks noted the report from DPD Personnel wherein the Board requested information on police personnel suspended with pay and duty restrictions – non medical. The report from Personnel listed no members of the Department in either category. **Commissioner Dewaelsche** indicated that she wanted to amplify the concerns expressed by the Chief of Police during our last Board Meeting. Dewaelsche indicated the Chief reported that the Department receives more than 500 service calls per month dealing with individuals with some type of mental illness. Dewaelsche also indicated that the Chief's remarks impressed on her the problems of transferring mental health care and service from mental health facilities to police based services. Dewaelsche indicated that people suffering from mental health need sustainable treatment in a proper facility. Commissioner Dewaelsche recommended that the Board develop a regular legislative contact program to let members of the Michigan Legislature know of the great need for mental and behavioral health services in our community. Dewaelsche added that it is one of the Board's responsibility to advocate for mental and behavioral health services largely because of the negative impact that the absence of these services are causing as mentally disturbed individuals have contact with officers. **Mr. Hicks** discussed a recent letter to the new head of the Detroit-Wayne County Mental Health Authority to invite the new Mental Health Director to meet with the Board so that the Board can discuss many of its concerns associated with mental health and law enforcement. **Commissioner Mallett** joined the remarks made by Dewaelschs and added that the Board should also seek to be more specific in educating others about the problems in mental and behavioral health and make specific requests of the legislature to fully fund mental health and behavioral health programs. Mallett discussed the Healthy Initiatives Program (State of Michigan) and the Affordable Health Act (Federal) Program indicating that appropriate funds should be available for these programs. Mallett also discussed the shortage

of mental health beds and how if mental health and behavioral health beds were fully funded that local hospitals and other facilities would increase their capacity to treat more of the populations in need of mental health and behavioral health services. Mallett indicated that for the first time funds had been appropriated under the Affordable Health Act for mental and behavioral health program, but now these funds are in jeopardy.

MOTION: Commissioner Dewaelsche moved that the Board initiate a regular mental health watch and legislative campaign designed to influence the legislative environment involving Mental Health Services.

Second, Sanders

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Old Business: None

New Business: Board of Police Commission Resolution to Support Reforms that Help Ban Weapons.

Teresa Blossom, Media and Community Outreach Coordinator read the resolution into the record.

Whereas, the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners seeks to uphold the tenets of public safety. Those tenets include a law-abiding citizenry; a professional, well-trained police force; and a caring, civil society that supports the needs of its population, and

Whereas, mass shootings and mass killings have become common threats to public safety in the United States. These mass shootings, along with their common frequency, are a detriment to our values as a society and our decency as human beings, and

Whereas, the Wednesday, February 14, 2018 shooting at a Florida school became the latest to claim lives and forever change survivors, families and communities, with 17 fatalities and many more injured. This latest spree included the use of a gas mask and smoke grenades, as well as a semi-automatic weapon and multiple magazines of ammunition, and

Whereas, outrage, sadness and sympathy are proclaimed each time, but American life moves on knowing there will be a next time. We hope and pray that the "next time" is not at our school, or our office, or our church, or our movie theater, or our concert, or our shopping mall, or our park – because no place in America is now truly safe from the types of weapons of rapid, mass destruction manufactured and sold by gun makers, and

Whereas, we have the ability as an informed American citizenry to act and ensure public safety measures that prevent these mass shootings and killings. We have the ability to demand that weapons and armory more suited to wars and battlefields are not readily available on the retail market. This small move could hamper would-be perpetrators and could help better identify risks to public safety, and

Whereas, with mass shootings and mass killings taking place in big cities and small towns across the country, the will of the American people to take action can happen during the elections this year for Congress, so

Therefore be it resolved that the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners urges residents in Detroit and throughout our nation to support reforms that help ban weapons and armory suitable only to mass killings and to hold those seeking public office accountable to enact reforms that reduce gun violence and that protect public safety.

MOTION: Commissioner Mallett moved the resolution transmitting the CFO's recommended budget to the Mayor.

Second, Sanders

VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Commissioner Brown also suggested that the Board track gun legislation in Lansing. **Ms. Blossom** indicated the Board has already passed a resolution opposing two of the gun bills. Ms. Blossom indicated the Policy Division will continue to track gun and mental health legislation in Lansing as suggested by Commissioner Brown.

Announcements: The next regular meeting of the BOPC is scheduled for February 22, 2018, at 3:00 PM, Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226. The next Community Meeting of the BOPC is March 8, 2018 at 6:30 PM, location (Downtown Services) TBA

Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:

Eric Blount wanted to acknowledge to the Board and Department of the difficult times in which the Department operates. Blount also indicated the community is aware of the history of the dismantling of mental health services, the lifting of police residency and the taking away of revenues, all of which are attacks on the resources needed for police officers to do their work. **Peter Rhoades** wanted to thank the Board for the presentation on Medical Marijuana and was critical of the revenue that is allocated under the State law to local municipalities. Rhoades also indicated he is still waiting on the report on reimbursements for downtown sports and entertainment services. **Denise Dansby** wanted clarity as to why four 8th precinct officers were at her home watching people move out of their home for more than four hours. She asked how I make a complaint. One of the officers indicated that he “owned me”. Ms. Dansby indicated she took this statement as a racial slur. Ms. Dansby was referred to OCI and a members of the Chief’s staff. **Ashely Carter** inquired about new police hires and wondered if new officers could be shifted towards adding more mental health personnel.

MOTION to Adjourn by Commission Bell.

Adjournment 4:24 PM