

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: August 16, 2018 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit MI 48226

BOPC Chairman Willie Bell called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 PM (August 16, 2018)

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Willie E. Bell, Chairperson	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown, Vice Chairperson (7:00 PM)	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Excused	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Eva Garza Dewaelsche	Excused	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Excused	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Conrad Mallett, Jr.	Yes	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	7	

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for August 16, 2018.

The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes: Thursday, August 9, 2018

BOPC Chair Willie Bell said, "Welcome: Good Afternoon. I am Police Commissioner Willie Bell, I represent District #4. I serve as Chair of the Board and will be conducting our meeting today. On behalf of the Board, for those in attendance, thank you for joining us. For people viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for viewing our meeting. Commissioners Lisa Carter and Eva Dewaelsche are away from the office and have asked to be excused.

Today is another day of sadness for the Detroit Police Department and the City of Detroit. Police Officer Fadi Skukur, Badge # 556 assigned to the 8th Police Precinct passed away Tuesday after a battle from injuries he sustained from a hit-and-run pedestrian car crash on August 4, 2018. Police Officer Fadi Shukur graduated from the Detroit Police Academy in 2017 and had a short, but distinguished career in the Department. Visitation arrangements for Police Officer Fadi Shukur is set for Friday, August 17, 2018 starting at 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Wilson Atkins Funeral Home located at 17500 Fenkell Avenue, Detroit. I ask everyone in attendance to pay a moment of silence in honor of the life and work of Police Officer Fadi Skukur, Badge # 556."

- Moment of silence for Police Officer Fadi Skukur

INVOCATION: for the invocation we have invited the Detroit Police Chaplin Walker, 8th Police Precinct to provide the invocation.

Chairman Bell, continued, After welcoming attendees to the meeting Chairman Willie 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. Chairman Bell also welcomed Deputy Chief Charles Fitzgerald, representing Chief of Police James E. Craig to the meeting and invited him to introduce DPD staff.

Chairman's Report – BOPC Chairman Willie Bell said, On behalf of the Board, I want to express our concern and support for fallen and injured officers. Our concerns for officer safety and citizen protection is continuous. Our Board receives a weekly report from the Department listing injured officers. I would ask the representative of the Chief of Police during his remarks to provide us with any additional information related to injured and fallen officers.

The Board of Police Commissioners meets every week except for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday periods. We meet at Police Headquarters in regular session, 3 weeks in the month on Thursdays at 3:00 PM. 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 citizens are justified in asking "How does civilian oversight of law enforcement help you as a citizen within our community?" Our answer is, we protect the civil rights of citizens. Oversight organizations like the BOPC are at the forefront of investigating, reviewing and auditing individual cases of citizen complaints and patterns of operations by police agencies to eliminate misconduct, discriminatory police practices and unnecessary use of force by police. Our work is based on developing and supporting effective policing. Mutual trust and respect between the police and the community is critical toward increasing the quality of life for residents and visitors to Detroit. Alternatively, distrust impedes police effectiveness and contributes to the lack of cooperation between the police and the community.

The Board of Police Commissioners exists to provide civilian oversight for the work of the Detroit Police Department. As a Board, we receive and investigate non-criminal citizens' complaints, monitor the operations of the Department and work with the Mayor and the Chief of Police to make or modify police policy. Our objective is the same as the city of Detroit, to provide for the best use of your tax dollars to improve on the quality of life within our city. As a Board, we bring a unique perspective to policing, the eye and the viewpoint of civilians. The principle of civilian oversight is as old and as important as all of the founding principles in our democracy. Separation of powers between and within government allows for accountability, transparency, rights to appeal and citizen control. These principles are important nationally as well as locally.

Before outlining the order of the meeting, I would like to share several concerns and issues. As a Detroiter and a man of faith, I want to send out our collective support and concern for Sister Aretha Franklin. Aretha died today! Ms. Franklin has long added joy to the lives of many with her music and many contributions to our city and nation. Aretha Franklin will be remembered as one of Detroit's best! We pray for her soul and a final resting place for Aretha, the Queen of Soul Music. I would also ask for a moment of silence for Sister Franklin.

- Moment of silence for Aretha Franklin

I would also indicate that I have been impressed with the work of the Recruitment Sub-committee and the Department's recruitment unit. Commissioners Brooks and Dewaelsche are very active in these efforts. Under our new committee assignments, Rev Jim Holley will be joining them in an effort to identify and recruit the best qualified candidates for our police force. To this end, we want to focus on Detroiters and young people. I have asked our staff to work to organize a special Board meeting to be held October 25, 2018 at one of our public high schools at a time and with an agenda that is likely to attract young people. I also request that this Board cancel the August 30, 2018 Board meeting in honor of Labor Day. Typically, the Labor Day weekend is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of the labor movement and enjoy our families over the last extended weekend of the summer. Many of our children will be going back to school. As we make these and other adjustments to our schedules we might have a problem is putting together a quorum for our meeting due to extended vacations and other family demands. I will ask for a motion to cancel the August 30th Board Meeting at the appropriate time on the agenda.

I also want to indicate that the Chief's Office has been in contact with the Board on the regrettable incident that involved one of our officers beating a mentally impaired female at Detroit Receiving Hospital. As we understand it, a preliminary investigation has been conducted by the Department and a warrant request has been made to charge the officer involved in the incident. We have also been informed that the Chief will hold a request for the officer to be suspended without pay until after the Prosecutor reviews and acts upon the warrant request. The Board will wait until the Chief's recommendation is provided to us for review and at that time we will set a hearing.

Today, we have one informational presentations to the Board. The presentation is about the Detective Bureau, DC David LeValley will be making the presentation. I have asked that the presentation include our concerns related to the operations and accomplishments of the "Integrity Unit" and its work with "cold cases". I have asked that they describe the distribution and rationale for case assignment within the Bureau. Are cases assigned according to the Detectives experience and specialty, randomization, work shifts and deployment or any other method for assigning cases? I have also asked for them to clarify a recent report in the newspaper suggesting a 15% Homicide Clearance Rate in 2016. How does this report relate to our current clearance rate which I understand to be at 54% on homicides? Given that today's focus is on Detectives, I would ask the Chief and the Interim Personnel Director, how we are coming on establishing a promotional examination for the rank of Detective?

I also want to point out that in your Board packages you will see a report on the distribution of our recent newsletter by zip codes. As you recall, in the past there was a concern expressed by one of our members suggesting that the mailings did not include his district. The report shows that every district in Detroit received copies of the newsletter. Also in your package is an updated list of Greenlight locations divided by Police Precincts. Green Light locations stand at 374 location to-date.

Toward the end of the meeting we will have oral communications. 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 Ms. Teresa Blossom, and she needs your card before the beginning of public comments.

Motion: Commissioner Conrad Mallett, Jr. motioned that the Board of Police Commissioners cancel the meeting for August 30, 2018.

Second, Commissioner Darryl Brown, provide a second to the motion.

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 1 (Davis) Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Resolutions: None.

COP Police Report: Deputy Chief of Police Charles Fitzgerald reported that crime is continuing to trend downward. DC Fitzgerald Assistant indicated that the Chief of Police was away and unable to attend the meeting due to the recent death of Police Officer Shukur. DC Fitzgerald reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending August 12, 2018. DC Fitzgerald reported Homicides percentage change between 2016 and 2017, -12% decrease in Homicides, Sexual Assaults 54% increase, Robbery -12% decrease, Carjacking 5% increase, Aggravated Assaults -6% decrease, non-fatal shootings -15% decrease, Burglary -17% decrease, Larceny -0% decrease, Stolen Vehicle -23% decrease and Part 1 offenses -9% decrease. DC Fitzgerald provided the Board with an update on injured and fallen officers. Commissioner William Davis inquired about the increase in carjacking. Commissioner Shirley Burch inquired about the deployments of police bikes related to community patrols.

Presentations to the Board: (A) Detective Bureau, Deputy Chief of Police David LeValley

(A) Detective Bureau, Deputy Chief of Police David LeValley indicated that the Bureau had approximately 500 members. DC LeValley outlined the Detective Bureau and listed the Command Structure for each section including Cmdr., Elaine Bryant, Major Crimes Section with Homicide, Capt. McGinnis, Special Victims, Capt. Johnson, Auto Theft, Lt. Boyle, Public Order Crimes, Lt. McKay; Organized Crime with Cmdr. Nicholas Giaquinto and Capt. Rodney Jackson, Major Violators, Lt. Parnell, Vice, Sgt. Taylor, Task Force(s), Lt. Severy and Gang Intel, Lt. Johnson; Investigative Operations Capt. Aric Tosqui, Crime Scene Services, Lt. Stefan, Records, Lt. Eggers and Investigative Liaison, Stg. Purdy. DC LeValley and other police personnel discussed the mission and current focus of each unit. Captain Michael McGinnis also submitted a report on Detroit Homicide Clearance Rates from 2012 thru 2018 reflecting a clearance rate of 41% (2012) to 54% (2018). Commissioner Jim Holley required about the definition used by the Department and how it compared with the definition used in collecting FBI Statistics. DC LeValley responded that the Department used the same information and the Department backed out from its count homicides that are later determined to be non-criminal or justifiable. LeValley also indicated that the Washington Post article had several inaccuracies in their data. Commissioner Holley also asked about arson and how Detroit arson rate compares to other cities, the current work to fight Opioid within the city and region and gang activity within Detroit. DC LaValley responded that the Department works with the Michigan High Trafficking Association and are a part of the joint effort to confront Opioid trafficking in the region. Lt. Johnson indicated that Detroit did not have the same type and level of gang participation as other cities including Los Angeles and Chicago. Commissioner Shirley Burch inquires about the Department's policy related to active investigations of missing persons. DC LeValley clarified that all "missing persons cases" are assigned immediately, but that after 2 year the cases are re-assigned to the cold case unit. Commissioner Willie Bell inquired about the recent beating of an impaired female at Detroit Receiving Hospital, Bell asked for clarification on if the female was placed into a scout car naked? Bell objected to this type of practice and suggested that the Department should send out a Directive to officers on this practice reminding them of the appropriate protocol. Commissioner Conrad Mallett, Jr., inquired about the stress levels that officer's experience. Mallet indicated that the descriptions of the officers performance by hospital staff, it appeared that the officer may have reach a breaking point and inquired about the Department's policy in helping officers confront and deal with high stress levels as a pro-active or intervention treatment practice. DC LaValley responded indicating that the Department has several stress reduction protocols including the Management Awareness System (MAS) that alerts superiors of potential stress levels, Peers (Peer groups and individual counseling) and medial referrals to determine fitness for work. Bell, added that the Police Chaplin Corp also proved substantial assistance to officers after critical incidents in the field. Bell also asked about an update on the process for selecting a vendor to develop the next group of examinations for officer promotions.

BOCP Standing Committee Reports: Commissioner William Davis reported that the Personnel Committee had met, discussed and voted to hire an investigator in the Office of the Chief Investigator's Office at a specific salary. Chairman Bell indicated he had discussed this matter with members of the Personnel Committee and the committee would reconvene upon the return of members Dewaelsche and Carter and report back to the Board. Commissioner Holley inquired if the intent of the report was to be voted upon by the full Board before it is activated. Bell indicated that the committee voted it out and now it would go through the process.

Old Business: None.

Report from the Board Secretary. Mr. Hicks reported on eight items of incoming and/or outgoing business of the BOPC. Hicks indicated the Officer received four items that were inquiries or complaints, three of the inquiries were referred to the COP and one to the Office of the Chief Investigator. Hicks also reported on a review of the distribution of the last BOPC newsletter and Greenlight update report. Commissioner Burch asked about how proceeds from illegal dumping are placed in the General Fund. Mr. Hicks discussed the scope and purpose of General Funds and Special Funds.

Old Business: None

Announcements: The next regular meeting of the BOPC is on August 23, 2018 at 3:00 PM at the Public Safety Headquarters Building located at 1301 Third Street, 3rd Floor, Detroit, MI. 48226. The next community meeting of the BOPC is September 13, 2018 at 6:30 PM 4th Precinct, Marathon Petroleum Michigan headquarters, 1001 S. Oakwood, Detroit, MI 48217.

Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:

Reginald Crawford discussed his concerns about the handling of naked mental impaired people during an arrest. Crawford indicated a cheap solution to his concern was to have some type of covering in the trunk of each patrol car for use in circumstances like the encounter with the mental impaired persons who was the subject of the report. Mr. Crawford also discussed the Opioid addiction and gangs. Crawford stated that the biggest gang in the nation in the opioid situation is the pharmaceutical companies and the congressional lead effort to disallow lawsuits against the pharmaceutical industry. Crawford applauded the Ceasefire program as a program fighting against gang crime. Sgt Lee Smith was killed and wanted to thank the Chief and the Department along with other police agencies in investigating his case. Crawford also expressed his condolences with fallen and injured personnel in Detroit. Fredia Butler, read into the record a letter complaining on several non-compliant usage of businesses within her community. Ms. Butler indicated this is a follow-up to a complaint that she made in May, 2018. (See letter attached). Ms. Butler discussed the last encounter that her group had with the effected business leaders. Ms. Faith acknowledged the work of the Department and the Board including the Board's reaction to citizens who bring complaints about the Department and City. Ms. Faith also added her concerns about fallen officers and the parenting of poor youth as they are a reflection of the likeness of their parents. Commissioner Brown indicated he has provided Ms. Butler's list to DC Todd Bettison which in turn it has provided to the Board of Zoning Appeal (BZA). Commissioner Brown indicated he is still encouraging a speedy inquiry into Ms. Butler's concern. Commissioner Bell indicated that the same concerns have also been addressed with the Mayor.

In closing, Commissioner Bell requested that we keep the lives and contributions of fallen officers, Ms. Aretha Franklin and Sgt. Lee Smith. Commissioner Burch acknowledged the work of OCI and the Chief Investigator Polly McCalister and the increase investigative tools like body worn cameras that aid in resolving citizen complaints.

Commissioner William Davis moved that the Board of Police Commissioners meeting be adjourned.

Second, Commissioner Brooks

VOTE: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED

Adjournment 4:36 PM.

Attachment.

August 15, 2018

**Board of Police Commissioners
1301 Third Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226**

Board Members:

Commissioners, May 17th I came before you seeking help with a problem that I've worked on since October, 2011. The list has grown from twenty used cars and repair places to forty plus. I have made phone calls, wrote letters, attended meetings and spoken before boards with no results. Now we are physically protesting with signs stating our concerns.

We know and follow the rules for protesting and the people at the business called the police. And Saturday, August 11th, I called the police because the people at the business sprayed the chemical Ortho Weed B Gon and used profanity trying to intimidate us. When I first saw people working there, I stopped and asked about their plans and was told that it would be a car business. I expressed that we want businesses but we need different kinds of businesses in our communities. They said that they had a license and "this is a free country". I told them just because they had a license doesn't mean they can operate whatever they want without any restrictions.

Our ministers and politicians have failed us. The churches were once the pillars of the communities. As stated by one of our prominent ministers that most of the ministers do not live in the city so there is no vested interest to help maintain the communities. I believe they come, give a feel good sermon, collect money and return to their places of living. The only other connection with the community is at election time to help get the politicians of their choice elected to office.

Our politicians make promises but once in office they take on the same attitude as those who were once our oppressors. The politicians' bam boozle our people making promises, giving chicken dinners and not working on behalf of the people. Many times you won't see them until the next election.

Monday, August 13th the mayor held a meeting in the 6th district at Unity Baptist Church. He said that he knew of the problem and stated that the people at these businesses purchased the land and he referred me and others to the attorney who has been assigned to work on this

issue. The attorney asked for a list he already has. I am not making or giving any more lists of these car places. I believe if any of us owned land down town, Corktown or Midtown that we could not open businesses that would not enhance the area. A couple who owns land in Cork town expressed doubt whether they would be allowed to move a barn converted to a restaurant on their land because Ford Motor Company has purchased the train station. How would a barn look in that area? It doesn't belong.

These use car places do not belong in our communities. They are eyesores and are homes for rats and other animals. We are working to stabilize and beautify our communities. We lost our schools and too many of us said nothing. We also have the responsibility to keep our communities safe and clean. And we will with the help of our NPOs. It is the responsibility of our city's officials to make and enforce ordinances. We will continue our protest to save our communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fredia M. Butler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "F".

Fredia M. Butler, Community Activist