

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, May 23, 2024 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, Michigan 48226

- I. **Chairperson QuanTez Pressley called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Commander Chaplain Leslie Walker provided the invocation.
- III. **Report from Acting Board Secretary Robert Brown / Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:**
 - A. ALWOP Police Officer Jared Shaw
 - B. ALWOP Police Officer Liana Shaw
 - C. ALWOP Lieutenant Brandon Cole
 - D. FOIA Request Waiver
 - E. LAPD OIG's Suspicious Activity Reports
 - F. OCI Weekly Inventory Report 05112024_05172024

IV. Announcements.

Board Acting Secretary Brown announced the following:

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 30, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 6:30 p.m., hosted by the 7th Precinct to be held at Detroit Edison Public School Academy Auditorium, 1903 Wilkins St., Detroit, MI 48207.

V. Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance		
	In Attendance	Not-In Attendance
QuanTez Pressley, Chairperson	Yes	
Tamara Liberty Smith, Vice Chairperson	Yes	
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.	Yes	
Cedric Banks	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
Lisa Carter		Excused
Ricardo Moore	Yes	
Jesus Hernandez	Yes	
Darryl Woods	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

- VI. **Chairperson Pressley** requested the approval of the amended Agenda to move New Business after the BOPC Officers' Report for Thursday, May 23, 2024. The motion was accepted and adopted.
- VII. **Chairperson Pressley** requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2024. The minutes were adopted as presented. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of Closed Session Minutes for Police Officer Caleb Williams from May 16, 2024, the minutes were adopted as presented. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of Closed Session Minutes for Police Officer Glenn Bines from May 16, 2024, the minutes were adopted as presented. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of Closed Session Minutes for Candidate Koren Crowley from May 16, 2024, the minutes were adopted as presented. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of Closed Session Minutes for Candidate Darrice Cain from May 16, 2024, the minutes were adopted as presented.
- VIII. **Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives and Community Leaders.**

IX. BOPC Officers' Report.

X. New Business.

- A. Personnel & Training Committee Chairperson Hernandez provided an overview of the committee meeting held May 22, 2024. The discussion focused on the vacancy of the Secretary to the Board position.

"By recommendation of the Personnel & Training Committee the position description for Board Secretary be updated and ready to be posted in the beginning of June." The motion passes.

Commissioner Burton moved, "that the Board post the Board Attorney position." The motion failed.

YES: 3

NO: 5

MOTION: FAILED

YES: Commissioners Banks, Burton, Moore

NO: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Smith, Commissioners Bell, Hernandez, Woods

XI. Chief of Police Report.

Chief of Police James E. White provided an abbreviated crime report to discuss the incident that occurred on May 19, 2024 during the protest. There are several issues arising out of the protest event on May 19, 2024 the incident involving a video of Detroit Police Lieutenant and a protester. Also an altercation with a separate protester-giving rise of concern of bias-based policing. DPD has implemented a number of changes in policy since the protests of a couple years ago. This was a stationary protest and we are going to implement things we can to better. **Second Deputy Chief Grant Ha** provided department rules and regulations require that all mobile field force members when engaged in the first amendment related activities have their Body Worn Camera on and prominently have their badges and names readily apparent to individuals they are dealing with.

Commissioner Hernandez expressed the type of damage ethnic undertones can have on a community. There is going to have to be a lot more engagement when it comes to our Hispanic and Latino community to be able to begin laying the foundation of repairing the damage that's been done. Whether it be perception, whether it be lack information, whether it be just the fact that in today's age, people only take the sound bite and they don't peel back the layers. If you still remove the ethnic undertone of that engagement and that encounter, in a time when we are welcoming so many people on a national and international level. As a department, the perception could be that we are not welcoming guests, that we are not welcoming demonstrators, that we are not welcoming our own residents to be able to be in our own streets, and it just so happens to be that it was Downtown. I am actually looking forward to a very deliberate action plan in how you and your department are going to actually start laying the foundation to repair in our community because it is very disappointing.

Chief White said I don't disagree with anything that you said. Sadly on the heels of probably one of the more successful moments in time that we had in this department's history, welcoming 775,000 people to our city with very few minor incidents. I'd much rather be before this body celebrating that work, celebrating our historic crime reductions. Instead, I am talking about this and we have a number of protocols in place to ensure that this behavior is not tolerated. I can't guarantee that 2,600 plus people are going to do things the right every day. But what I can commit to this Board, is that I am going to hold them accountable when they don't, particularly in an area so sensitive, so very sensitive to the success of this organization.

Commissioner Moore asked how did the Lieutenant know that the young lady just came from Mexico.

Chief White stated we have found that there is some communication. Now, I don't know what level of communication, but we do know that she has a social media page. My understanding, as I sit in front of you right now, is that it is an open page it not private page. So perhaps he got on her page and saw that. I do not know, I will find out.

Commissioner Moore stated that people are automatically linking that into your CIOGS. Which brings scrutiny to another level. Going to the Body Worn Camera issue. I learned that there was an issue with BWC a couple years ago, I did not know it was as severe as it was. So, I would just hope you all can break up this pattern of people not wearing BWC because it is very severe.

Chief White said he wanted to address the CIOGS, we have been scrutinized these past few days. It is illegal for us to

track and store. **Second Deputy Chief Ha** the department does not maintain, nor do we store, or have a repository, or database of individuals engaging in first amendment related activities. That is clearly unconstitutional and we do not do that. How Lieutenant Cole came upon that information that is something that will have to be ferreted out during the investigation. **Chief White** stated the second comment was also correct. Two years ago, we had a horrible problem with BWC, we didn't have enough. We would run details, there would be officers out there with no BWC on and frankly, we didn't have an aggressive enough audit system. Since that time we have purchase over a million dollars in new BWC's. Everyone has a camera, I have already checked there was a camera available for the Lieutenant. He wasn't wearing it. Other officers were, he was not. And that's a problem and it's certainly a problem for a Lieutenant who has to lead by example. So that other people wear BWC, so, all of this is problematic.

Commissioner Woods asked how many people were arrested at the protest.

Chief White indicated there were two physical arrests, there were six additional detentions ticketed and released at the scene. One felony arrest and all the arrests are being reviewed.

Commissioner Woods expressed I strongly encourage you take a look at that. I have received a whole lot of complaints from the Palestinian community and a lot of folks felt that there was some injustice. As it relates to moving forward will there be training involved in terms of dealing with protesters and things of that nature?

Commissioner Burton said given the most recent abuse committed by Lieutenant Cole against peaceful protesters our community calls for greater transparency and accountability, but also call this police oversight Board to weigh in. And so I have a questions for both Chiefs. Chief White will you support the demotion of Lieutenant Cole for his most recent actions with innocent protesters. I am calling for you to demote Lieutenant Cole and also provide us an updated overview of police officers training when it comes to interacting with protesters. To Chief Investigator Warfield where does your office stand regarding this most recent abuse by Lieutenant Cole against civilian protesters? Lieutenant Cole agitated with those protesters. This is not acceptable by this department; it is not acceptable by this city. What stronger measures are you going to send Chief White pertaining this?

Chief White as difficult as these situations are we must remember that the Lieutenant has due process, and he has an opportunity to defend himself, explain what happened. We have to conduct a thorough investigation.

Chief Investigator Warfield said our office has received 24 inquiries to date concerning the situation. We've already conducted a preliminary investigation concerning the events on May 19, 2024. Upon our preliminary investigation, we do understand Internal Affairs is in the process of conducting an investigation as well. One of things we've decided to do is close this case and transfer this case over to Internal Affairs. Primarily for the reason to not endanger any future criminal case that may arise from the department's investigation. If we move forward with an investigation and garrity the officer, we significantly handcuff the department's ability to meter out any discipline that may be needed in this situation. For this particular situation, we are transferring this case to Internal Affairs.

Commissioner Woods moved, "that Commissioner Burton be censored." The motion failed.

YES: 2

NO: 5

ABSTAIN: 2

MOTION: FAILED

YES: Vice Chairperson Smith, Commissioner Woods

NO: Commissioners Bernard, Banks, Bell, Burton, Moore

ABSTAIN: Chairperson Pressley, Commissioner Hernandez

XII. Oral Communication / Public Comments.

Ms. Charnita Williams, Former Commissioner Reginald Crawford, Lieutenant Mark Young, Ms. Bernice Smith, Ms. Rella Landfair, Minister Eric Blount, Ms. Michelle George, Ms. Yvonne Jones, 124, Ms. Marguerite Maddox, Mr. Meeko Williams, iPhone, and Former Commissioner William Davis provided public comments.

Commissioner Moore moved, "that the Board and City Law Department support the fee waiver as requested for FOIA A24-02888." The motion passed.

YES: 5

NO: 2

MOTION: PASSED

YES: Commissioners Bernard, Burton, Moore, Hernandez, Woods
NO: Vice Chairperson Smith, Commissioner Bell

XIII. Adjournment.

Vice Chairperson Smith adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m.

DRAFT