

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, August 25, 2022 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, Michigan 48226

- I. **Chairperson Bryan Ferguson called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Chaplain Shari Lowman provided the invocation.
- III. **Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.**

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance		
	Attend	Not-Attend
Bryan Ferguson, Chairperson	Yes	
Annie Holt		Excused
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.	Yes	
Cedric Banks	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Yes	
Ricardo Moore	Yes	
Jesus Hernandez		Excused
Rev. Jim Holley, PhD.	Yes	
QuanTez Pressley	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

- IV. **Chairperson Ferguson called to approve the Agenda for Thursday, August 25, 2022 the motion was accepted and adopted.**

VOTE: YES = 6 NO = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

- V. **Chairperson Ferguson called for any corrections to the Meeting Minutes for August 18, 2022. The minutes were adopted as presented.**

VOTE: YES = 6 NO = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

- VI. **Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives.**

- VII. **Chair's Report.** Chairperson Ferguson reported on the following information: "Thank you for attending today's Board Meeting.

Before moving into the Invocation with Commander Chaplin Shari Lowman, I would like to set the record straight on an agenda item.

Last week, there was a news report about the Board's action on the Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits Request for Police Officer Samuel-Jay Martin stating the Board would bring this item back as a result of the news story.

For clarification, the Board alerted DPD and the Union the week of August 8th that we wanted to revisit the Administrative Leave request. That was two weeks prior to the TV report.

After notifying the union of our intention, the union asked the Board to postpone the matter until union representatives could attend the meeting. This caused the delay in immediately bringing the item back.

We agreed to have the item on today's meeting Agenda, and there is a Closed Session to allow us to review the

Administrative Leave request in adherence with due process and the Open Meetings Act.

Lastly, our staff brought this item to our attention to ensure that as a Board, as a collective body, we adhere to our charter mandate of providing appropriate, legitimate supervisory control and oversight over the Department, especially when acting as the final disciplinary authority in rendering disciplinary decisions. This will assure the public, DPD and our Board's confidence that we will set appropriate precedent in alignment with Department policy (that we help to create) and in alignment with the law, which impacts future officer behavior and Department culture.

I also want to add that, as part of our review of what has occurred over the last few weeks, to ensure we properly and adequately review and consider all Administrative Leave Requests by the Department, we have implemented a new Disciplinary Committee. This committee will be responsible for conducting the initial review and evaluation of DPD disciplinary requests for Board action. And this committee will make a recommendation to the full Board in consultation with our staff and the City Law Department.

This new administrative measure will ensure that we have a committee specifically dedicated to reviewing and evaluating these requests in connection with the full Board, our staff, and the City Law Department and provides us a mechanism to process these requests more efficiently and more effectively.

With that, we will have a Closed Session this afternoon regarding the Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits for Police Officer Samuel-Jay Martin.

We will also incorporate our message regarding DPD Recruitment and the Board's support of the Department's ongoing effort to recruit serious, qualified police members to the DPD. Recruitment is part of our civilian oversight mandate as well and we would like to ensure that we support the Department toward those efforts which will make our Department better overall.

As a reminder, today, the Department is holding a Back to School Rally and DPD Recruitment Fair here at Public Safety Headquarters from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Also, regarding positive feedback about DPD, as a reminder to the public, you can always send praise reports and feedback about the officer to DPD HR and ask that those commendations be placed in the City HR file. This is a standard HR practice. Thank you.

(1) CLOSED SESSION:

As mentioned earlier, we will have a Closed Session on the Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits for Police Officer Samuel Jay-Martin.

(2) DPD'S REVIEW OF BACK-END PROCESS OF JUDICIAL PROCESS:

Last week, the Board held an extensive discussion regarding the Department's efforts to fight crime and create a safer community, and the judicial system's role in helping to ensure a safer community.

This follows the Board's elevation since 2020 of discussion and calls for broad action on violent gun crimes, particularly homicides and non-fatal shootings.

At our meetings, we've heard from Chief White, Prosecutor Kym Worthy, Third Judicial Circuit Court Chief Judge Timothy Kenny, Sheriff Raphael Washington, U.S. Attorney Dawn Ison, and other key leaders. From the legal community listening tour for moving circuit court operations forward to the commitment to federally prosecute violent gun crimes, new action is underway to help make a difference.

We also see more support coming from President Biden, and his Administration's support to address the roots of crime and bolster public safety.

Most importantly, we have seen renewed community activism to show that Detroiters want a safe city. Detroiters want to help stop the violence and senseless killing.

Last week, Chief White shared with the Board and public that he and his team are looking at the violence caused by suspects arrested but released on low bonds or tethers, and then commit more crimes that require police to re-arrest them. The Chief promised a full report later, and we look forward to that.

With all these actions underway, the Board is rescheduling next week's panel discussion to the Spring of 2023. Since the first discussion in the Spring 2021 and as reiterated in our Spring 2022 update on tackling gun violence, this Board has believed that all areas of the criminal justice system have a role in public safety and must be held accountable by us to ensure those roles are performed effectively. I want to thank immediate past chair Jim Holley, who helped the Board elevate the discussion and serve as an impetus for positive change.

We must have accountability and transparency in the entire criminal justice system, not just from the law enforcement aspect – the front end of the process -- but also the “back end of the process,” and we must ensure that we engage in all of these endeavors in line with 21st Century Policing, Oversight, and Community Involvement.

(3) BOPC COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:

Board Members, you recently received the new BOPC Committee Assignments for this fiscal year. Please let me know if you have any questions.

VIII. Oral Communications / Public Comments.

Ms. Victoria Shah, Minister Eric Blount, Mr. Scotty Boman, Former Commissioner William Davis, Ms. Taura Brown, 402 is Ms. Joy, and Ms. Brenda Hill offered public comments.

IX. Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police's Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information: On behalf of Chief of Police James E. White, Deputy Chief of Police Franklin Hayes reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property; COVID-19 impacts; and recent critical incidents impacting the DPD and the community. See the attached Meeting Transcripts and DPD Crime Reports for more information and also posted to the Board's webpage.

X. Report from Interim Board Secretary Melanie White/Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:

1. BOPC Meeting Calendar 2022
2. BOPC Proposed Committees for FY 2022-23
3. Weekly DPD Facial Recognition Technology Report 8/15/22 – 8/21/22
4. DPD ShotSpotter Report 8/15/22 – 8/21/22
5. Project Green Light Report 8/22/22
6. Staff Reports

XI. Unfinished Business.

XII. Announcements.

Mr. Robert Brown announced the following:

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 1, 2022, at 3:00 p.m., at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters 1301 Third St., Detroit, MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, September 8, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., at Kemeny Recreation Center, 2260 S. Fort St., Detroit, MI 48217

Monthly Committee Meetings' Schedule for October 2022 – Every 2nd Wednesday

Budget Committee Meeting	Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.
Personnel & Training Committee Meeting	Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.
Citizen Complaints Committee Meeting	Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
Policy Committee Meeting	Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 3:30 p.m.

All Committee Meetings will take place in the Detroit Public Safety Headquarters

XIII. New Business – Closed Session

Motion that “the Board go into Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268 Section 8(a) of the Open Meetings Act regarding the Department’s request for the Board to consider Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits for Police Officer Samuel-Jay Martin, Badge 4058, assigned to the Fifth Precinct.” (2/3 roll call vote required) (Time: 4:39 p.m.). The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 6 NO = 2 MOTION: ADOPTED

XIV. Chairperson Ferguson moved to “Reconvene Public Meeting.” (Time 5:36 p.m.) The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 9 NO = 0 MOTION: ADOPTED

Commissioner Bell moved that “the Board of Police Commissioners rescind the motion previously adopted to deny the Chief’s Request to place Police Officer Samuel-Jay Martin, Badge 4058, assigned to the Fifth Precinct, on Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 6 NO = 2 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Commissioner Bell moved that “the Board of Police Commissioners accept Chief White’s Recommendation to place Police Officer Samuel-Jay Martin, Badge 4058, assigned to the Fifth Precinct, on Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 6 NO = 2 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Chairperson Ferguson provided the following meeting summary before adjourning today’s meeting:

First, we set the record straight: The Board of Police Commissioners had previously planned to revisit the Administrative Leave Request of Officer Samuel-Jay Martin prior to any news story. Today, we voted to approve Chief White’s request to place Officer Samuel-Jay Martin on Administrative Leave Without Pay but with Medical Benefits.

Second, we announced our new Committee Assignment that includes our new Disciplinary Committee, which will be an Ad Hoc Committee.

Last, given our extensive discussion during last week’s meeting about efforts to increase community safety, we are allowing Chief White and the Department to continue their review and evaluation of the “back-end of the judicial process” for providing a future report to the Board and key stakeholders for intentional change in keeping our streets and communities safe from violent offenders and repeat offenders. With that, we are postponing our “Aim to be Crime Free” Summit until Spring of 2023 to allow for the Department to adequately review this area and to allow for progress on new measures to federally prosecute violent gun crimes and to see the results of the circuit court’s listening tour to move its operations forward and address its backlog of cases.

XV. Adjournment.

Chairperson Ferguson adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.