

City of Chicago
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE	Regular Meeting
MEETING DATE	Thursday, September 28, 2023
MEETING LOCATION	Truman College
TIME CALLED TO ORDER	6:39 pm

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Name	Present or Absent / In-Person or Remote
Rev. Dr. Beth Brown	Present, In-Person
Anthony Driver, Jr. – President, Chair	Present, In Person
Oswaldo Gomez – Vice President	Present, In-Person
Yvette Loizon	Present, In-Person
Cliff Nellis	Present, In-Person
Remel Terry	Present, In-Person
Isaac Troncoso	Present, In-Person

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes.

Acronyms:

CCPSA = Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability

COPA = Civilian Office of Police Accountability

CPD = Chicago Police Department

ATU = Amalgamated Transit Union

NALC = National Association of Letter Carriers

- I. President Driver called the meeting to order.
- II. President Driver called the roll and established the quorum.
- III. The Commission held a public comment session. Several speakers offered comments. Public comment may be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page:
www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa.

IV. New Business

Police Board Nominees

Commissioners Troncoso & Loizon provided an update on the Police Board nominations.

The Commission nominated six candidates to fill four existing vacancies on the Police Board. The mayor will consider all six candidates for the first vacancy, the remaining five candidates for the second vacancy, the remaining four candidates for the third vacancy, and the remaining three candidates for the fourth and final vacancy. The mayor's appointment decisions are due October 28, 2023.

The nominees are as follows:

1. **Dr. Niama Malachi**, Chief Executive Officer and Principal Consultant, The Social Consultant
2. **Oreal James**, Principal Partner, MD Capital Partners Ltd
3. **Debra Gittler**, Global President, CEO & Founder, ConTextos
4. **Kyle Cooper**, Partner, Tabet DiVito & Rothstein LLC
5. **Rebecca Cook**, Urban Planner, CERA Solutions
6. **Cathryn Crawford**, Public Defense Attorney and Reform Advocate

Commissioner Troncoso called for a vote and Commissioner Loizon seconded the vote.

Motion passed 6-0. Commissioner Nellis recused himself on the nominations of Debra Gittler and Cathryn Crawford.

V. Reports and Updates

Update on Policy Making

Commissioner Terry provided update on CCPSA Amendment Go1-03: Directives on Directives.

On September 14, 2023, President Driver sent a letter to Mayor Johnson regarding the Amendment adopted on September 7, 2023. The Amendment allows the Commission to review and approve any CPD policy related to collection, maintenance, and the use and sharing of CPD gang related information.

Pursuant to CCPSA Ordinance MCC2-80-110C7, after the Commission adopts a CPD general order, the Mayor has 60 days to review the order. The amended directive will come to effect on November 6, 2023, unless the Mayor submits written rejection to the amendment.

Associations Order

Commissioner Terry reviewed the CPD Amendment to Go8-03: Prohibitions on Associations with Criminal Organizations.

Existing Order Overview:

- Officers cannot be members of or "associate" with members of criminal organizations.

- CPD identifies “criminal organizations” based on crime patterns and information from officers and informants.
- CPD identifies members of criminal organizations based on emblems, tattoos, signals or symbols, information from informants.
- “Associations” based on documented and reliable information.
- Officers are required to report any violations.
- No clear definition of “criminal organizations”.

Proposed Changes:

Commissioner Terry provided an overview of the Association order.

Adds definition of “criminal organization” to include:

- Gangs
- Hate groups
- Terrorist groups
- Discriminatory groups
- Groups that interfere with police duties

Allows CPD to discipline/terminate officers for doing or associating with people who do the following:

- Recruit, fundraise, donate to support a group.
- Attend events, organize, or lead a group.
- Promote or support a group, including via social media.

Other provisions include:

- Advise officers on prohibited social media activity.
- Designate responsibilities around the listing of criminal organizations to the Bureau of Counterterrorism.
- Require CPD command to ensure complaint Log Number investigations are initiated for violations.

CCPSA Comments and Suggestions:

CCPSA recommended broadening the order’s name and label of “criminal organizations” to reflect the broad types of organizations covered by the order.

New name and label: “Criminal and Biased Organizations”.

- Add a section in basic recruitment training and in-service trainings to ensure the policy is covered.
- Add language to make the updating and sharing of the list at least semi-annual rather than annual. Also clarifying that assistance will be available to CPD members.

CCPSA recommended periodically sharing a list of prohibited organizations publicly. CPD is amenable to this suggestion and will continue to discuss how to implement it.

CCPSA recommended periodically sharing information on the number of complaints, number of violations, number sustained, and types of discipline. CPD is assessing the feasibility of this.

Commissioner Troncoso made additional suggestion for Policy Committee that if an officer has been found guilty of engaging with a criminal and bias organization, that information be made available to attorneys making appeal.

Commissioner Loizon explained the next steps are to vote on this policy at the October 26, 2023, monthly meeting. Commissioner Loizon and Commissioner Terry will host webinar on an October date to be determined. Updates and registration on the webinar will be posted on the Commission's website. Public comment at Commission meetings, Superintendent public forums, and District Council meetings is encouraged. Public comments can be emailed to CommunityCommissionPublicComment@cityofchicago.org.

New Police Superintendent

Commissioner Terry provided an update on the new Superintendent. On September 27, 2023, the City Council voted to approve Chief Snelling's appointment as the Superintendent of CPD. Now that the mayor's selection has been confirmed, the next step for the Commission will be to hold four public listening sessions. One public hearing shall be held on the North Side of Chicago, the South Side of Chicago, and the West Side of Chicago. There will also be a virtual public hearing.

VI. Subject Matter Hearing: Public Safety for Workers

The Commission held a subject matter hearing on public safety for workers. Commissioner Driver invited CPD Commander Bob Vanna and Deputy Mayor Garien Gatewood on stage to participate in the discussion.

Each group had 10 minutes to speak.

NALC

Gave an overview of the most pressing safety issues impacting postal workers. This includes an increase in robberies throughout the city. Postal workers are being robbed in record numbers for their mail keys.

There needs to be better coordination between local police and postal police.

Garien Gatewood stated that the mayors' office wants to hold a meeting with the postal carrier's union to work on these issues. Commander Vanna from CPD would also like to be involved.

ATU

Erik Dickerson from the ATU discussed the issues most impacting transit workers on trains: This included:

- The CTA's reduced staffing has been an issue. There needs to be two transit workers on each train.
- There needs to be a dedicated transit police force. Unarmed security officers provide no protection.
- The laws need to be stronger to hold people accountable for those who break the law.
- Transit workers are not trained to deal with the large number of homeless people and people with mental health issues who ride the train.

Bus Operators

Michelle Townsend from the ATU discussed the issues most impacting transit workers on buses: This included:

- CPD needs to ride the bus in hotspots.
- There needs to be faster response to bus alarms.
- Penalties for people who commit crimes are too soft.
- Better partnership with CPD is needed.

Ride Share Drivers

A representative of Chicago Gig Alliance discussed the issues most impacting rideshare drivers. This included:

- Public reporting of crimes against rideshare workers is needed.
- Need a liaison to CPD to help work on increasing crimes against drivers.
- Laws are needed to verify passengers' identities.
- Outfit rideshare drivers and their vehicles with safety equipment.
- Want a safety committee to set up to discuss these issues regularly with CPD.

VII. Announcement of the Next Meeting

President Driver announced that the next meeting will be October 26, 2023, 6:30 pm at Malcolm X College.

VIII. Close

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM. The Commission then moved to its closed session.