

City of Chicago
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE	Regular Meeting
MEETING DATE	Thursday, June 29, 2023
MEETING LOCATION	Kehrein Center for the Arts
TIME CALLED TO ORDER	6:30 pm

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Name	Present or Absent / In-Person or Remote
Rev. Dr. Beth Brown	Present, In-Person
Anthony Driver, Jr. – President, Chair	Absent
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

- I. Vice President Gomez called the meeting to order.
- II. Vice President Gomez called the roll and established the quorum.
- III. The Commission held a public comment session. _ speakers offered comments. Public comment may be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page:
www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa.
- IV. Minutes: Commissioner Terry moved, and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion to approve the minutes. No debate was held on the motion, and it carried with a vote of 6 – 0 – 0.

V. New Business

ACTION ITEM #1: DC 001 vacancy recommendation.

Commissioner Terry moved and Commissioner Troncoso seconded to recommend Marcel Bright to the Mayor to fill the vacancy. There was no debate on the motion, and it carried with a vote of 6 – 0 – 0.

Aye: Brown, Gomez, Loizon, Nellis, Terry, Troncoso

Nay: /

Motion Carries.

ACTION ITEM #2: District Council (DC) position assignments confirmation

Commissioner Gomez moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion to recognize and affirm DC position assignments. There was no debate on the motion and it carried with a vote of 6 – 0 – 0.

Aye: Brown, Gomez, Loizon, Nellis, Terry, Troncoso

Nay: /

Motion Carries.

VI. Reports and Updates

Superintendent Search Process Update

Commissioner Terry delivered an update on the Superintendent search. The update included outreach efforts, where the Commission is in the process, and a timeline that described the process from beginning to end.

Commissioner Troncoso said that this is the largest number of applications for superintendent that the city has ever received.

Commissioner Brown asked if the Commission is required to give seven days' notice prior to the closed meeting. The Commission's Executive Director clarified that the closed meeting would require 48 hours' notice, but open meetings would be seven days' notice.

No further questions or comments were made on this item.

CPD goals update

Commissioners Brown and Nellis delivered the update. They outlined that they meet with CPD quarterly on the goals to gauge the process and potentially make adjustments based on those discussions. They outlined that CPD has provided goal-related correspondences regarding:

- (1) an update on the Department's Workforce Allocation Study,
- (2) the CAPS and Neighborhood Policing Initiative (NPI) integration planning,
- (3) the Department's holistic officer wellness strategy,
- (4) status updates for several goals related to CPD's management and infrastructure,
- (5) partnerships with the community, and
- (6) human resources goals.

The Commissioners also emphasized the importance of CPD developing strong relationships with District Councils. They also requested a plan for expansion of the NPI program and a plan for handling asylum seekers in CPD facilities.

There were no questions on the matter.

Draft Selection Policies for COPA Chief and Police Board Nominations

Commissioner Loizon delivered the update. The Commission presented drafts of two policies for public comment: 1) Procedures for appointing the Chief Administrator of COPA. 2) Procedures for nominating people to serve on the Police Board (PB). The Commission is responsible for each of these actions as part of its oversight authority over COPA and the Police Board.

The Commissioner also gave information regarding the functions of the Police Board and COPA. She explained that these policies make things simpler and more transparent and are also required by the consent decree.

There were no questions on the matter.

Police Board Nominations

Commissioner Troncoso delivered the update. He explained the Commission's role in the filing of Police Board vacancies and explained that it is a rolling application and that the application materials are on the CCPSA website. There are Police Board seats that need to be filled in August due to anticipated vacancies. He then reviewed the qualifications necessary to be considered as a Police Board member.

There were no questions on the matter.

Police Board (PB) Goals Update

Commissioner Troncoso delivered the update. He gave a brief overview of the Commission's role in the goal setting process for the Police Board. He introduced Paula Wolff and Max Caproni of the Police Board to deliver an update on the Board's goals and progress made to date. A goal-by-goal breakdown reflected the progress being made toward completion of the goals. Goal 4, which relates to the appeals process for individuals to be removed from the CEIS cannot move forward until there is a decision made about whether to launch CEIS.

Updates on Consent Decree Goals included:

- The PB achieved full compliance with several paragraphs in the consent decree applicable to them, particularly items related to training. There are 14 requirements under the consent decree PB must be compliant with and to date, they have attained full compliance with eleven of them and partial compliance with three.
- The PB would like to develop more training and invited the Commission to contribute to the process.

Update Goal 3:

- COPA and CPD don't agree on disciplinary recommendations.
- Rule 14 cases, prohibits officers from making false reports.
- Time limit for the law department to file charges.

Commissioner Terry asked about a comment that was made about hiring outside council.

Mr. Caproni clarified that the outside council would represent the Superintendent at Police Board proceedings and that it may not be appropriate for them to be involved.

Commissioner Troncoso had a question related to Goal #6. He wanted to know if any changes have been noticed. The PB responded that they have not seen much of a change. The Commissioner then asked how far back they can look for sustained complaints. The PB responded that there is currently no limit.

Commissioner Loizon asked about the source of delays from the city's law department. PB responded that once the case moves forward, they can track the progress. There may be staffing shortages in the law department leading to delays.

Commissioner Nellis had a comment. The Commissioner thinks the community training goal is fascinating and wants more information.

Commissioner Gomez closed the questions section.

COPA Update

Commissioner Brown and Loizon delivered the update. They invited Chief Kersten to speak.

Andrea Kersten delivered an update on changes to the system to address backlogged caseloads and timeliness in general.

Commissioner Brown and Loizon expressed that they are in favor of COPA's plan to close older cases.

Commissioner Gomez clarifies that the point of the presentation is not to take a vote but to make sure that the program is carried out thoughtfully.

Commissioner Gomez requested questions from the Commission.

Commissioner Troncoso had a question about the capacity that this initiative may lend to COPA as they clear older cases. Chief Kersten responds that the ceiling for cases taking no longer than 18 months to 2 years is the goal.

Commissioner Terry asked a question. The Commissioner wanted to know if COPA can share with the community how cases end up in arbitration and if the information is public. Chief Kersten explained several different ways by which cases go to arbitration and that the cases will still be visible to the public.

Commissioner Nellis had several questions.

1. What are the total number of complaints that will not be investigated? Chief Kersten stated that she doesn't have that number because the cases will be reviewed prior to closure.
2. How do you know that arbitration doesn't lead to remedies? Chief Kersten stated that this is based on past practices and some union contract negotiations.
3. How do we make sure we don't end up here again? Chief Kersten stated that cases in intake are at the most 40 days old. The number of cases in the intake unit are also small.

Commissioner Gomez asked a question. The Commissioner wanted to know when changes will happen. Chief Kersten stated that it will launch in mid-July but outreach will begin in August.

Commissioner Gomez also asked if more investigators can be hired to speed up the process. There are vacancies in those positions every year.

VII. Miscellaneous

Commissioner Brown acknowledged PRIDE month and shouted out CPD for making it safe.

Commissioner Troncoso announced COPA's community advisory board meeting is tomorrow.

Commissioner Nellis mentioned the lawsuit concerning traffic stops.

VIII. Announcement of the Next Meeting

Vice-President Gomez announced that the next meeting will be Thursday July 27, 2023.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27PM