

Cleveland Community Police Commission

Full Commission Meeting Minutes



Regularly Scheduled Meeting

Special Meeting

Meeting Date, Time and Location

Meeting Date: August 23, 2023

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Meeting Location: Cleveland Public Library – Hough Branch, 6530 Lexington Ave.
Cleveland OH, 44103

This regular meeting of the Cleveland Community Police Commission was called to order on August 23 at 6:01pm by Co-chair Rodriguez

Attendance roll call:

- Adams – Present
- Benito – Present
- Chura – Present
- Donaldson – Present
- Earley – Present
- Garrett-Ferguson – Present – Arrived at 6:07
- Kennedy – Present – Arrived at 6:07
- Reaves – Present
- Ridgeway – Present
- Rodriguez – Present
- van Lier – Present
- Wang – Present
- Zayed – Present

Quorum established: yes

I. Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was distributed and approved.

II. Special Presentation

- Councilwoman House gave an introduction and welcomed the Commission to the neighborhood. (1:36)
- *Understanding Police Investigations – Cleveland Police Internal Affairs investigation presented by Christopher Viland, Superintendent of Internal Affairs. (7:28)*
 - Internal Affairs investigates officers accused of serious charges, criminal charges, and those requested by the Chief.
 - If there is a fatal officer involved shooting, the prosecutor's office is contacted.
 - IA works with outside agencies if what an officer is accused of a crime outside of Cleveland.
 - Note that [Garrity warnings](#) limit how cases are investigated, meaning that criminal and administrative investigations are bifurcated.
 - IA does not investigate externally discovered misconduct, unless it is criminal.

- IA does not continue administrative investigations for those no longer working for the CDP.
- The IA will send some cases to HR and other entities in the city if they have jurisdiction. IA is also responsible for the Force Investigation Team.
- *Understanding Police Investigations – Cleveland Office of Professional Standards presented by Marcus Perez, OPS Administrator. (29:19)*
 - OPS investigates externally discovered accusations against police officers. OPS has three main objectives: investigate accusations, assist citizens navigate the police system, and improving training.
 - Undergoing efforts to improve the workings of the OPS, as there have been a lot of delays and setbacks in the past.
 - OPS does not continue investigations for those no longer working for the CDP.
 - OPS is trying to increase its own community engagement, which is important for community buy in.
- There was a question and answer period for Commissioners to the guest presenters. (56:30)

III. Co-chair Report (1:49:45)

- (Co-chair Ridgeway) the CPC has now had three meetings with the Federal Monitors about the consent decree, so that the Commission's progress can be reflected on the progress report. Intend to share the work of the committees.
- (Co-Chair Rodriguez) there is that request for a team building exercises.
- (Co-Chair Rodriguez) there is a pending request about attendance concerns.

IV. Director's Report (1:51:49)

- (Interim Executive Director Goodrick) there is an update on hiring: Juanita Thomas has been hired as Administrative Assistant.
- (IED Goodrick) an Assistant Director of Law is still unfilled, we are in contact with Chief Ethics Officer Delante Spencer Thomas, but no information yet.
- (IED Goodrick) Overview Plan of what work the CPC Committees will be working on.
- Action items: Citizens can look over the Overview Plan and provide feedback. This will also help direct Citizens such as Kayla Pincus.

V. Committee Reports (1:57:57)

- Internal Training (Garrett-Ferguson, Earley):
 - Two pending trainings:
 - 1) a training with some of the framers (Citizens for a Safer Cleveland) of Issue 24 help explain what they hoped the amendment would accomplish;
 - 2) a training on surveillance technology that the City and CDP use.
- Budget and Grants (Adams):
 - All applications had to be in by July 31, incomplete applicants had an additional week. The applications fully closed on August 6.
 - There were 92 total applications, with 79-80 fully completed.
 - Met with CEO Thomas about a conflict of interest/disclosure form for recusal. We are now dividing the 79-80 completed grants for commissioners to review, two commissioners for each grant.
 - There were some updates to the rubric and if a certain score is reached (~17) the applicant will be interviewed.
 - Law Department created an agreement for the grantees, will probably need a special session in September to pass all of the grants.

- Action items: Chair Adams asked commissioners who are not on the committee to volunteer to review the grants.
- Rules: (Teri Wang)
 - **Wang made a motion to Advance Rule 1.7.2 Meeting Minutes to Commission for Vote, Zayed Seconded. (2:07:13)**
 - Adams – aye
 - Benito – aye
 - Chura – aye
 - Donaldson – aye
 - Earley – aye
 - Garrett-Ferguson – aye
 - Kennedy – aye
 - Reaves – aye
 - Ridgeway – aye
 - Rodriguez – aye
 - van Lier – aye
 - Wang – aye
 - Zayed – aye
 - With a vote of 13-0 the motion is adopted unanimously.
 - **Wang makes a motion to Advance Rule 2.4 Receipt of Citizen or Officer Incident-Based complaints for Vote, Benito Seconded. (2:08:15)**
 - Adams – aye
 - Benito – aye
 - Chura – aye
 - Donaldson – aye
 - Earley – aye
 - Garrett-Ferguson – aye
 - Kennedy – aye
 - Reaves – aye
 - Ridgeway – aye
 - Rodriguez – aye
 - van Lier – aye
 - Wang – aye
 - Zayed – aye
 - With a vote of 13-0 the motion is adopted unanimously.
- Policy (van Lier):
 - Discussed overview framework
 - Set up two Work Groups: Surveillance Technology and Crisis Response.
 - Sent a letter to the Mayor about [RISE](#) program in August, we received a response form Safety Director Howard on Friday.
- Training (Adams):
 - Planning a community event with the police, including reality-based training in front of the community.
 - In the process of setting a meeting date for the CDP's Training Review Committee.
 - Curriculum Review Process with Commander Maguth.
- Accountability (Wang):

- Setting up the Brady Giglio Work Group, the Discipline Work Group to look at discipline system, the Sexual Misconduct and Gender Based Violence, and the Workforce Accountability and Labor Work Group to identify ways to improve officer performance.
- Outreach: (Zayed):
 - Established the Community Survey Work Group.
 - Working on other projects to be in compliance with Paragraph 17 C from the Consent Decree.
 - Will be have officers who work on recruitment and outreach and how we can support them.

VI. Public Comment (20:20:24)

Summary of comments

- Richard Jackson, former CPC Commissioner, Commission Co-chair, and member of Citizens for Safer Cleveland: Mr. Jackson made a reference to the protestors who came to the current Commission's swearing in, he said that they were not protesting you, rather they were protesting the process, because according to the law there was supposed to be an attorney as a member. He also said that the Commission is going to have to learn to build capacity and not focus on singular issues. He said that ED Goodrick is very qualified for the position; he is qualified to be safety director. Policy Committee needs to be review policies writ-large, find where conflicts are, so policies can be decoupled from what the officers get training on vs what the citizens know; so people can discern misconduct from mistake. Accountability build capacity and see how many cases can you review a month. Co-chairs should build out process for speed—so when something happens you can get the commissioners up and running. He also said we need to work on recruitment and retention.
- Citizen: there are a lot of people who will never call the police, they are afraid to. He expressed his concern that the OPS and IA are not making people feel safe.

VII. Formal Adjournment

The meeting was formally adjourned at 8:28 PM.