

Cleveland Community Police Commission

Full Commission Meeting

Minutes

July 12, 2023

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Cleveland CPC Offices, 3631 Perkins Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114

Co-chair Ridgeway, presiding, gavels in at 6:01pm

Attendance roll call:

Adams – present
Benito – present
Chura – present
Donaldson – present
Earley – present
Garrett-Ferguson – present (arrived after roll call)
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – present
Ridgeway – present
Rodriguez – present
van Lier – present
Wang – present
Zayed – present (arrived after roll call)

van Leir moved to approve last meetings minutes, Reaves seconded.

Adams – nay
Benito – nay
Chura – nay
Donaldson – nay
Earley – nay
Garrett-Ferguson – absent
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – nay
Ridgeway – nay
Rodriguez – nay
van Lier – aye
Wang – aye
Zayed – absent

Motion failed 2-8

Adams moved to approve \$30,196 in funding for 10 Commissioners and ED Goodrick to attend the 2023 NACOLE Conference in Chicago, Garrett-Ferguson seconded.

Adams – aye
Benito – aye
Chura – aye
Donaldson – aye

Earley – aye
Garrett-Ferguson – aye
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – aye
Ridgeway – aye
Rodriguez – aye
van Lier – aye
Wang – aye
Zayed – aye

Motion passed 12-0

Rodriguez moves to adopt 2.x Subpoenas, Garrett-Ferguson seconded.

Adams – aye
Benito – aye
Chura – aye
Donaldson – aye
Earley – aye
Garrett-Ferguson – aye
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – aye
Ridgeway – aye
Rodriguez – did not vote*
van Lier – aye
Wang – aye
Zayed – aye

*Co-chair Rodriguez did not call on her self during the roll call, but did say the motion passed by unanimous consent.

Motion passed 11-0

Wang moved to send 2.x Receipt of Citizen or Officer Based Complaint back to the Rules Committee, Adams seconded.

Adams – aye
Benito – aye
Chura – aye
Donaldson – aye
Earley – aye
Garrett-Ferguson – aye
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – aye
Ridgeway – aye
Rodriguez – aye
van Lier – aye
Wang – aye
Zayed – aye

Motion passed 12-0

Rodriguez moved to adopt 2.x Other Independent Investigations, Garrett-Ferguson seconded.

Adams – aye
Benito – aye
Chura – aye
Donaldson – aye
Earley – aye
Garrett-Ferguson – aye
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – aye
Ridgeway – aye
Rodriguez – aye
van Lier – aye
Wang – aye
Zayed – aye

Motion passed 12-0

Public Comments

Maria Crenshaw, Chasing Justice, expressed disappointment in the Commission for the events of the June 14 meeting. She also expressed dissatisfaction with several commissioners in how they conducted themselves during the last few meetings, she mentioned Commissioner Garrett-Ferguson and Co-Chair Ridgeway. She also expressed frustration with the lack of progress the Commission has made and the time wasted on disagreements unrelated to the Commission's work.

LaTonya Goldsby, BLM Cleveland, Citizens for a Safer Cleveland, read a statement calling for Commissioner Garrett-Ferguson to be removed for her conduct during the June 16 meeting. She also expressed her support for Executive Director Goodrick and would like the Commission to reaffirm that he was indeed appointed to be the permanent ED.

Brenda Bickerstaff, citizen of Cleveland, reiterated that due process is an essential part of the Commission's work. She also expressed her dissatisfaction with the Commission.

Michelle Vielle, citizen of Cleveland, expressed her disapproval of a comment made by Commissioner Garrett-Ferguson concerning the influence of families affected by police violence. She expressed how hurtful those comments were. Supports the request that the Commissioner step down, because of the lack of empathy or awareness for victims of gun violence.

Loh, citizen of Cleveland, questioned the qualifications of the Commissioners and the effectiveness of the Commission.

Adams moved to extend the meeting by 15 minutes, Wang seconded.

Adams – aye
Benito – aye
Chura – aye
Donaldson – aye
Earley – aye
Garrett-Ferguson – aye
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – aye

Ridgeway – aye
Rodriguez – aye
van Lier – aye
Wang – aye
Zayed – aye

Motion passed 12-0

Rosie Palfy, formerly of MHRAC, expressed dissatisfaction with Commissioner Garrett-Ferguson, as she referenced a triggering experience. She expressed dissatisfaction with the lack of action on addressing concerns about decorum and safety brought up during the last meeting and taking action on their own vote regarding the ED. She noted the contradictory statement of Mayor. She noted the debate during the meeting about a lawyer showed a lack of understanding of the process. She also expressed support of the staff.

Kayla, citizen of Cleveland, expressed concern that the Commission is afraid to get into minutia. She expressed concern that the Co-chairs are assuming too much power.

Darnell T. Brewer, D-Cleveland, Garfield Heights (House District 18), expressed his disapproval in the actions of Commissioner Garrett-Ferguson, he reiterated that public officials have to behave in a certain way and be respectful for their constituents and fellow citizens. He implored the Commission to set an example, as any problems with the commission make it harder to argue for police reform back in Columbus, or to argue that Cleveland is improving and could set an example.

Loh, citizen of Cleveland,