

Cleveland Community Police Commission (CPC) Minutes

Full Commission Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2020

Google Meet Virtual Meeting

Attendees: *Commissioners:* **Sgt. Richard Jackson; Gordon Friedman; LaToya Logan; Dr. Megan Testa; Dr. Stephanie Hinnershitz; Dr. Terry Echols; Lewis Katz; Rev. Frederick Knuckles; Victoria Mario; Harriet Hadley**

Staff: **Jason Goodrick**, Executive Director; **Ryan Walker**, Policy Analyst; **Shalenah Williams**, Community Engagement Coordinator; **Sara Anderson**, Marketing Communications Specialist; **Junita Thomas**, Administrative Assistant.

Absences: *Commissioner* **Jeffrey Follmer; Lt. (Ret.) Gail Maxwell; Mayele Ngemba;**

Director Jason Goodrick called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Online Meeting Conduct and Guidelines (Goodrick)

Welcome & Recognition of Community Members (Co-Chairs) -

Commissioner Richard Jackson acknowledge all organizations in attendance.

Groups present:

Families of the Fallen

Cleveland Monitoring Team

City Division of Police

MHRAC

SURJ

Commissioners Community Update: (Co-Chairs & Commissioners)

What are we working on? Work Group and Project Updates for Community

- **Discipline Matrix Committee Work Group:** Commissioner Richard Jackson gave an update. is a subcommittee with under the heading of Accountability Commissioner Richard Jackson gave an update. Currently this Group is attempting to revise the process of Police Discipline to get what should be a fair and consistent outcome for all levels of discipline in the CPD.
- **Accountability Work Group:** Commissioner LaToya Logan gave an update.
 - **Community Training Feedback:** most recently our workgroup completed the District Awareness training curriculum assessment PowerPoint training document as well as a tip card was provided to Commander Johnson in February.
 - **District Awareness Training:** looking to provide a detailed comprehensive report to the CDP that has evaluated each of the trainings that they have offered on the critical training topics identified in the consent decree which would include: Bias Free & Use of Force amongst others to provide feedback on how to improve the evaluation method and in some cases actually implement an evaluation method so that when we have statistical data to rely on to support our statements. These meeting will resume in July.

- **Officer Wellness Work Group:** Commissioner Megan Testa gave an update. This group will focus 100% on wellness and officers, so our plan is to look at the Cleveland police's current Wellness Policy and then look at the best practices in the literature and make recommendations for how the police can have a very robust officer wellness policy to really support the officers and their mental health. This committee also would look at the issue of stigma around mental health. This Workgroup is set to Start in June.
- **Leaders of Tomorrow Workgroup (LOT Youth Commission):** Commissioner Fredrick Knuckles gave an update. The CPC is looking for individuals between the ages of 18 - 26 who live in the City of Cleveland to join the work group. The Leaders will contribute to the Commission's policy recommendations by representing the views of youths and young adults based upon experiences with the Cleveland Police Division. This Workgroup is set to start in late June.
- **Search & Seizures Work Group:** Commissioner Gordon Friedman gave an update. They engage over there GPOs relating to search and seizure, stop and frisk, etc...
 - **Youth Interaction:** This workgroup is working GPO for juveniles or youth interaction with police. It deals primarily with the arrest & interrogation of youth that have disabilities. As well as youth that are the victims of abuse and or dealing with the issues of being trafficked.
 - **Transgender Interaction policy:** we will try to improve this policy by working with members of the LGBTQ Center in Detroit Avenue and their folks as well as other interested individuals that are on the search and seizure committee.
 - **Pursuit:** Will draft a proposed GPO regarding vehicle pursuits as a result of the tragedy that took place in December 2019.
 - The CPC will draft a policy that combines the best pursuit policies of New Orleans, Chicago and other municipalities to submit to the City of Cleveland.

Commissioner's Comments:

Commissioner Richard Jackson made remark regarding the pursuit policy.

Commissioner Gordon Friedman stated that Director Jason Goodrick is sending a letter to the City of Cleveland's Law Department and Chief Calvin Williams requesting information regarding pursuit's policies and statistics etc... in the last several years.

Commissioner Richard Jackson stated that the CPC met with Chief Calvin William on January 10th, 2020 regarding the tragedy that took place in December 2019. A vehicle pursuit that resulted with a young child losing her life. In the meeting it was agreed upon that the chief could forward us the factual information from their investigation so that the CPC could go forward with what we're charged in the consent decree. To date the CPC has not receive the factual information. **Commissioner Richard Jackson** also sent a letter on last week for an update on the request. The CPC still has not received a response.

Commissioners Continue Dialogue.

Commissioner Richard Jackson advised the about the community about the quantification of the Cleveland Monitoring Teams 7th Semi-Annual Report and the upcoming 8th Semi Annual Report.

Commissioner Lewis Katz made a comment regarding the letter sent to the City Law Department and Chief Williams to receive factual information regarding the tragedy that took place in December 2019 during A vehicle pursuit.

CPC Staff Senior Policy Analyst, Ryan Walk stated that the Community Satisfaction Survey has been extended for an additional 2 weeks.

Community Q&A/Comment Period:

Representative from Rosie Palfy of MHRAC asked Commissioner Gordon Friedman if the search and seizure committee was were planning on addressing the seizure of individuals for mental health assessments?

Commissioner Gordon Freidman responded there is a component of Mental Health recognition in the Proposed Youth Interaction with Police GPO and in the Search and Seizure GPO to require recognition of when somebody is stopped to recognize that person has a behavioral issue.

Representative David Lima from SURJ Showing Up for Racial Justice asked is the Commission aware of the Cleveland Department of Police application for and recent award of over seven million dollars from the Department of Justice for Operation Relentless Pursuit? Is the Commission concern about Operation Relentless Pursuit and an implementation of the Consent Decree and its various aspects including Use of Force, Bias-Free Policing and Search and Seizure?

Commissioner Gordon Freidman responded He was not aware of the Department of Justice for Operation Relentless Pursuit and he stated he would like Mr. David Lima to give him more information on the topic.

Representative David Lima from SURJ Showing Up for Racial Justice advised Commissioner Gordan Friedman that he would provided he with more information on the topic.

Community Member Brenda Bickerstaff states her concerns that legal actions should take place to acquire pursuit information from the City of Cleveland. She went on to advice that Mr. Franklin Son was shot and killed by an off duty police officer. Mr. Franklin is in need of more information on who the CPC is and how they can help in his situation. Lastly she stated that in her opinion the Consent Decree is Vague and not Strong enough in its content, because police are not adhering to its policies.

Commissioner Gordon Freidman responded that he agrees with Ms. Brenda Bickerstaff re the strength of the Consent Decree, but state at the moment it's the only information available at the moment.

Commissioner Lewis Katz responded that he agrees with Ms. Brenda Bickerstaff re off-duty police officers use of deadly force.

Cleveland Monitor Team Charles See asked Commissioner Richard Jackson to forward him a copy of the two letters that were sent to Chief Calvin Williams. Secondly he would like a copy of the quantification for the Cleveland Monitoring Teams 7th Semi-Annual Report. Lastly wanted Commissioner LaToya Logan to Clarify what transaction was she dissatisfied with that had come to the Monitoring Team.

Director Jason Goodrick responded to Mr. Charles See inquiry to Commissioner LaToya Logan that the issue was with the District Awareness Training and the most recent draft.

Representative from Rosie Palfy of MHRAC asked if the CPC can post the Cleveland Monitoring Teams 7th Semi-Annual Report to their website.

Community Member Brenda Bickerstaff asked when will the Workgroups reconvene.

Commissioner Richard Jackson responded to the question.

Representative from Rosie Palfy of MHRAC asked planning to do anything to look at homeless individual interactions with the police?

Commissioner Gordon Freidman and Commissioner Megan Testa responded that they agree that homelessness and policing should be looked at.

Commissioner Richard Jackson explained that the CPC is not an investigatory body, we're only looking to see that the policies that were put in place as a result of the consent decree are actually working to do what it was designed for. If the policies in place are not working then that's where we take our steps to put in place recommendations to make changes to get the policies working.

Commissioner Richard Jackson closed the meeting public comment at 7:30pm

ADJOURNED at 7:34 pm

27 attendees by headcount not including staff, commissioners, MT members, or City Personnel