

Cleveland Community Police Commission

Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2026

Call to Order and Attendance

The Outreach Committee meeting was called to order. The chair welcomed attendees and noted that Commissioner Sheila Mason was expected to arrive late, although she did not make it, and Commissioner Untaya Miller was unable to attend. Because a quorum was not initially present, the committee proceeded with discussion but did not take formal action.

Community-Led Outreach Discussion

The chair explained that future Outreach Committee meetings should provide more opportunities for direct community discussion. Following a recent panel discussion, the chair said the committee wanted to create more space for residents to ask questions, share priorities and help shape CPC outreach rather than having the Commission determine community needs without feedback.

Attendees were invited to identify community events where CPC or Cleveland Division of Police participation could be helpful. A community member referenced Project Ripple and an annual survivor walk connected to violence-prevention efforts.

Youth Engagement

A community member encouraged the CPC to increase engagement with young people, particularly during the summer, and suggested activities such as basketball events and other programming that gives youth a reason to participate while helping build trust.

Committee members discussed increasing CPC visibility through informal community events, tabling opportunities and interactive activities. Ideas included giveaways, CPC materials and simple activities that could attract young people while creating opportunities to hear directly from residents about the types of programming they would like to see.

Community Survey

The committee discussed the CPC's community survey regarding the relationship between Cleveland residents and the Cleveland Division of Police. The chair said the next step is to retain a firm experienced in survey distribution and discussed issuing an RFQ or similar solicitation. Funds for the survey work had already been allocated.

Later in the meeting, after Co-Chair Dr. John Adams arrived, members discussed whether additional Full Commission approval was needed before beginning the solicitation process. The discussion indicated that the committee could move forward with seeking proposals because funding had already been approved, with further Full Commission consideration potentially occurring when a firm is selected.

The chair said the goal was to have the solicitation issued and begin receiving submissions before the July committee meeting. Members also referenced a recent CPC survey that received more than 400 responses despite a short circulation period and said professional survey support could help generate broader community participation.

Youth Advisory Board

Discussion of a proposed Youth Advisory Board was initially tabled until the executive director could participate. Members nevertheless expressed support for stronger youth engagement and discussed the potential for the board to help young people better understand the CPC, law enforcement and positive ways to interact with police.

Co-Chair Adams suggested working with existing networks of teachers and civics programs to recruit students from Cleveland Metropolitan School District high schools for the initiative.

Social Media and Public Education

The committee discussed strengthening the CPC's social media presence to reach residents, particularly younger audiences who may not attend public meetings. Members discussed using social media to share useful public-safety information, current events and examples of positive community-police interactions.

Members emphasized that highlighting routine examples of officers assisting residents can help build trust while the CPC continues to identify areas for improvement. The chair also discussed creating short awareness videos tied to public-safety observances, including Gun Violence Awareness Month.

Full Commission Meeting Recaps

The chair proposed using future Outreach Committee meetings to provide brief recaps of the preceding Full Commission meeting. The goal would be to make Commission activity more accessible to residents who may not have attended or watched the full meeting online.

Community Engagement Staffing

The committee discussed the CPC's ongoing staffing needs and the recruitment of community engagement coordinators. The chair said these staff members would help expand the CPC's presence at community and District Policing Committee meetings, attend events when commissioners are unavailable and assist with social media and other outreach work.

Upcoming Community Events

Members reviewed several upcoming community events and discussed opportunities for CPC visibility and participation. Events mentioned included Gun Violence Awareness Month activities, a Teen Takeover event, an annual survivor walk, a community bazaar and resource event, a Wear Orange worship service, Juneteenth programming, a community safety party in the park and a community kickback.

The committee also discussed the opening of the PCC Hub, a community space offering workforce development, entrepreneurial programming, meeting and workspace options, computers and other community resources.

Police Academy Graduations

The committee discussed the importance of CPC representation at Cleveland Police Academy graduations. Members agreed that commissioners should monitor the academy schedule and prioritize attendance at future graduation ceremonies.

Adjournment

With no additional business, the chair thanked attendees for participating and concluded the meeting.