Cleveland Community Police Commission (CPC)
Full Commission Meeting Minutes
Trinity Cathedral Commons
2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115

Thursday, June 23, 2016
Public Meeting Minutes: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
(Executive Session: 7:30-8:30 p.m.)

Attended: Anthony Body, Kathleen Clegg, Mario Clopton, Yvonne Conner, Kathy Clegg, Amanda King, Dylan Sellers, Rhonda Y. Williams

Absent: Lee Fisher, Steve Loomis, Lynn Hampton, Deirdre Jones

Mr. Clopton called the meeting to order. Time was not noted.

At the request of Dr. Williams, Rev. Conner provided an overview of the Commission Meeting Structure and Flow

Co-Chairs Report
Dr. Williams reviewed the minutes for the June 8, 2016 meeting and established that an E-Vote will need to be sent out.

Provided an update on the Executive Director Search: The next meeting will be held June 30th and feature presentations by the final candidates.

Monitor/CPC Deadlines: The Commission should look at the deadlines before it and propose any extensions, as needed, particularly in the wake of the RNC and the CDP’s focus on that major national security event. This was discussed with Matthew Barge.

The Cleveland CPC received two letters from community:
1. SURJ
2. 6/23 from Coalition for 2016 funding initiative re: RNC

Asked for other updates:
- Mr. Body apologized for his recent arrest. Was it his fault? He said he didn’t think it was, but he realizes that the CPC is a public commission and it has weight and that he is in some ways a public official. He said that he needed to be aware of who and where I am because of that. So he extended his apologies to Commissioners as well as the Public. Commissioners extended thanks.
- Dylan asked what the procedure is for making Commissioners aware that he would like to step down as a Co-Chair of the Community Outreach & Engagement Committee. Dr. Williams replied that he can send an email to the Co-Chairs and his committee co-chair, but suggested that he think about reconsidering because the work is going to increase and we need the help of Commissioners. Dylan said he knows the work is going to amp up and doesn’t feel he has the time to make sure it’s successful.

Policing in Cleveland: RNC Report and Dialogue
Mr. Clopton shared the following:

CCPC asked Chief Williams or Deputy Chief Tomba be here this evening, but could not due to the parade yesterday and being behind in planning.

He provided comments under three areas: “Preparation, Communication and Intelligence.” The CDP is one of several police agencies involved. Others include state and federal agencies as well. He shared that a secure zone will be area around the Q, but that he was not exactly sure where the boundaries will be drawn. Officers will be on foot patrol, part of bicycle units, and mounted units -- approaching this with a welcoming attitude and philosophy of community policing. He stated that, according to news reports, that protective gear, military-style gear will only be used if needed. A video unit will be going around to record interactions since body cameras can’t be used on the riot gear.

(Based on Powerpoint presentation linked here: http://tinyurl.com/za2w8v6)

Several redundancies are built into communications. The City of Cleveland will be using multiple systems and levels of backup during the event. Including:

- Multiple direct radio-to-radio capabilities will be utilized in the event of multiple failure
- Cellular phones will be deployed to all supervisory, management and Command Staff personnel. Cellular phones are supplied to Mission Critical Support Resources (i.e.. Hospitals)
- All Mission Critical Functions and Individuals are being assigned Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS) Priority Status – Service provides priority phone service during an emergency

Officer training has focused on procedural justice, crowd management, standardized preparedness, 1st, 4th, 14th amendment practices.

Equipment includes small medical response units, fire trucks, neighboring counties giving jail beds.

Rev. Conner commented that the ACLU won their case regarding the parade route around the Q

Public questions and comments were allowed on this subject solely at this time:

- Jacqueline Green:
  - If anyone in the room experiencing fishing expeditions notify ohio@nlg.org
  - Sent letter regarding the $50 million federal grant. Believes the per paragraph 294 in the Consent Decree, the CCPC should be consulted regarding how money is spent and that that has not occurred. Would like to see money spent on equipment that could further community policing, not militarized equipment. Would like a meeting with the CPC, Monitor, and the City to discuss basic equipment and personnel needs to further the mission of the consent decree. Also called for the sale of anything purchased that is not part of the equipment needed on the front lines for community problem oriented policing. The CDP needs to continue to work to build trust and work toward repairing trust.
  - Wanted to raise these issues, and ask if we have been consulted and what we think about the feasibility of their request. Answers: We have not been consulted. Mr. Clopton stated that we had an initial discussion, with no substance or
Dr. Williams stated that the Commission is dedicated to real substantive change, not the status quo. Early on the CCPC co-chairs requested a public meeting on behalf of the Commission, and were told it would be "taken under consideration."

- William Marshall III:
  - In light of the fact that the Chief Williams and Deputy Chief Tomba could not be here, the CCPC should ask the City to use Channel 20 to publicize. The public can hear the rules of engagement for the public during the RNC to close the communication gap.
  - He also asked how many meetings a member of the CCPC is allowed to miss with or without permission, and noted that he sees the same few people attending the CCPC meetings.

- Garry Kanter: He senses frustration on part of CCPC with regard to $50 million purchases. What has the role of the Monitor Team been in this regard? He said the City not consulting the CPC reminds him of the mini-station on Public Square that was set up with consultation with the CPC. Answer: Mr. Clopton responded that the Monitor is always encouraging the City to be transparent. Restates that our concern about this issue is warranted, that it falls within our mandate is the Consent Decree, which states that the CCPC should be consulted about equipment, training, personnel.

- Community member expressed she is concerned regarding the lack of body cameras for the RNC. The roving video team does not seem effectual. Wonders if CCPC concerned.

- Gilder Malone: As a Republican who wants to attend the RNC, she asks the CCPC to give all the consideration and respect to the RNC as you would to the Democrats. Wants it to be fair. Mr. Clopton clarified that the CCPC is not politically affiliated, but is on the side of justice.

- Malcolm Himschoot of SURJ asked for clarification regarding the complaint process during or after the RNC. Is there a special place to capture RNC related police issues?

Community Outreach and Engagement Committee
Rev. Conner, as co-chair, facilitated this report. She stated that she had no new information and yielded to Mr. Body. He reported that the Community Outreach and Engagement Committee did not hold a meeting last Saturday to further discuss the CPC’s community outreach strategies. Rev. Conner did confirm that she prepared the grid to capture the organizations that CPC members wanted to develop consistent communication with to improve outreach and seek
community input when needed. She made the grid available in Google docs, but didn't hear
back from everyone.

Mr. Body then provided the organizations that would be on his list: Slavic Village, Famicos
Foundation, Neighborhood Connections, OOC, Bethany Baptist Church. He also announced
that he'd like to be a Co-chair of the Community Outreach and Engagement Committee, if and
since Dylan is stepping down.

Dr. Williams suggested we should choose a few organizations after everyone submits their
organizations. With regard to the ideas that Mr. Body initiated for us: Dr. Williams suggested
filling in the grid, collating the groups; discussing the groups; and then establishing a plan and a
process for establishing duties, responsibilities, and expectations so that the CPC can launch
the Advisory Councils or Youth and Behind the Walls -- maybe even both by focusing on youth
in the detention facility. She also suggested that we have another meeting before the next Full
Commission meeting so we can move forward with a plan on how to expand our community
engagement efforts.

Mr. Body and Rev. Conner will take responsibility for scheduling. Mr. Clopton suggested a
conference call if people couldn't organize a face to face. Dr. Williams said a face-to-face was
preferable.

Community Engagement Assessment Feedback Survey
Mr. Clopton provided a working definition of community oriented policing, highlighting two key
concepts: problem solving in active partnership with the community; and partnership requires a
respectful and trusting relationship between the police and the community. He, then, shared six
(6) proposed targets for CPC Community Engagement Assessment Plan and Tool.

1. **Mission and Planning**: Mission statement, strategic plan
2. **Staffing and Resources**: Need adequate resources for community policing, must be central,
needs strategies for recruitment and hiring diverse applicants
3. **Assessment and Measuring Performance**: Monitor outreach into the community, analyze
quality and nature of officers community policing efforts
4. **Training**: Initial and in-service, should include problem solving with the community,
procedural justice, de-escalation, cultural competency
5. **Engagement and Visibility**: Actively promote the visibility of officers and activities
6. **Community Partnerships**: Maintain collaborations with a broad spectrum of community
groups

*Options for Assessment with regard to the survey instrument*: Yes, No, in progress;
probably needs to be narrative.

**Next steps**: Use this and draft survey to get community feedback on assessing Community
Engagement

Rev. Conner noted that CDP not listed on the groups that we’ll be collaborating with. Dr.
Williams commented we have CDP members on the CPC and that is a part of the ongoing work.

Mr. Clopton mentioned that June 26 is no longer the deadline, since the Monitor is re-organizing
the dates and we need to wait for the CDP to respond. We are not being held to the June 26
deadline.
When Commander Heffernan was asked whether the Monitor had been in touch with them regarding recalibrating deadlines, he responded that the CDP is following the deadlines as they exist.

Public Comment Period
Mr. Clopton reviewed the ground rules.

- Kareem Henton: You presently have an officer on the CCPC who is an elected union advocate and opposes the work of the CCPC, CCPC won’t reach its goals or achieve the trust of the community. Asked the CCPC to ask Det. Loomis to step down or begin the process to have him removed.
- Garry Kanter: Consent Decree has a lot about Bias Free Policing. Repeated a statement from the CPPA website, with language that he felt was inflammatory, regarding riotous militants killed police officers. He argued that if the police candidate test prep for officers is done by the CPPA and some police officers who are assigned to Personnel represent the Union, perhaps the history as presented on the CPPA website is a disincentive to engage diverse applicants.
- Beth Amoria, a SURJ member, agrees with Mr. Henton’s statement about Det. Loomis.
- A community member who is a member of SURJ, which is part of a national network of white people for racial justice, asked for Det Loomis to be removed from the CCPC. Also asked that the CCPC move forward in Use of Force, greater civilian oversight on PRB, pursue Bias Free policing. Stated change is inherent in the CCPC role, but not in the Union president’s role.
- Pierre Nappier: Focused again on the Monitor being paid $5 million to monitor the implementation of the Consent Decree; want updated report on changes that will contribute to racial diversity; calls for dismantling of CDP; proposes a moratorium on hiring white men and women into CDP
- Dr. Williams clarified that the CCPC cannot select, appoint or remove commissioners. We carry the messages forward. Community should ask the people who have the authority—the parties, the City and Mayor, the DOJ, the Monitoring team and the Judge. She informed the audience that they can keep the CCPC in the loop so it knows what’s going on, but those are the people that need to be contacted regarding removal of a commissioner. Also clarified that the $5 million is for the entire Monitoring team. Further clarified that the CDP is not an all white police dept, it is 59% white male.
- Garry Kanter read oath that commissioners swore to, including Det. Loomis, which includes a statement about being impartial. He states that Det. Loomis “can’t serve two masters.” Thanked everyone in attendance to make voices heard.
- David Patterson stated it is clear that Steve Loomis has been biased, but he is more concerned with the officers that look up to Det. Loomis in terms of his leadership. He is concerned that officers will emulate him. Agrees that he cannot do the work of the CCPC and be unbiased and also be biased in favor of the officers he represents as the Union President. He asked for CCPC’s support as the community moves forward with measures to have Det. Loomis removed from the CCPC.
- Marva Patterson stated that she expects the City should be meeting regularly with the CCPC; believes that there should be someone else besides Det. Loomis on the CCPC.
- Community member clarified that she understands that the CCPC is not a political group, just was asking for respect in Cleveland for both sides.
- Mr. Sellers wants to respond to the several requests that Det. Loomis be removed. He stated that voices need to be directed to others besides the CCPC and the voices need to be loud. He states his personal stance is that Loomis is biased.
Commander Heffernan, by way of clarification on the role of the other police organizations: Det. Hampton is a rep of Black Shield, an organization but not a union, and Sgt. Jones is a member of the FOP, a collective bargaining unit for all supervisors. She is not union head. The only union head is Det. Loomis. Commander Heffernan also gave clarification that the officers doing the outreach and recruitment for diversity and inclusion are the Black Shield.

Genevieve Mitchell read a statement: (Entered into the record in italics below):

- There are certain questions that I refrain from asking because, whether RNC or DNC, in my mind; they represent institutional components of power whose operational objectives are basically, the same.

Understanding the nature of quasi-democratic systems, imperialism, racism and facism - along with their political actors, the institutional violence and control associated with RNC planning, and the $50 million dollar cash outlay to enhance militarization of local law enforcers, is consistent and, understood.

At the same time, the homicides (extermination) of scores of black, brown and poor white folk, which has led us to this point are structural bi-products of these institutional systems. In spite of my cynicism for this process...your positions here are not inconsequential - as, dismantling aggressive systems is not only a necessary and venerable goal, but, a component of survival for the victims (stewards) living under repressive, militarized occupations.

We are fighting the capitalist machine for our very lives! We raise our voices to neutralize the authority and state power of a government sanctioned, militarized occupying force that is ethnically cleansing our communities.

(In reference to the co-chair's comment) Although you can't teach someone to be nice, the plebiscite can impose checks and balances at the cash register and the polls to ensure that those folk who don't know how to be nice: do not get a gun, badge and paycheck that enables them to kill unarmed members of the public (whose tax dollars fund their own homicides) and at the same time retain their jobs, receive promotions, enhanced pay and extended authorities with state sanction, and full governmental impunity.

National Lawyers Guild lawyer Jacqueline Green asks the Commission to be observant to use of militarized equipment that would remain in the community after the RNC. She hopes the behavior of the police will serve as a benchmark for CDP commitment to police reform.

Mr. Sellers clarified that even if he is against Det. Loomis's comments and behavior, he is not anti-cop. He stated that his father is a police officer and that he was anti-those comments and those actions that Det. Loomis has put forth and given a bad name to his City and his father.

Garry Kanter: States that there have been 77 mentions of discipline in the Consent Decree, the word mediation never appears, few trivial mentions of dealing with CBA and arbitration; if that doesn't change, the Consent Decree cannot be successfully implemented.

Dr. Williams passed out copies of the minutes from the last meeting and asked for anyone who attended last time to check and offer corrections.

Dave Lima, a member of SURJ stated that in addition to the CCPC, the letter re: Det. Loomis has been sent to the Monitor, the Mayor, acting US Attty of the DOJ. He looks
forward to having him replaced with an officer whose job description is not in opposition to the work of the CCPC.

- Community member asked who has the power to remove Det. Loomis from the CCPC? Mr. Clopton said any change to the Consent Decree would have to be approved by the City and the DOJ. Rev. Conner said that the CPPA would have to choose a replacement. Dr. Williams stated that Det. Loomis stated that he chose himself; the civilians had to go through a long process to get selected for the CCPC. The process for the police officers was not transparent, so we don’t know how they were selected. The Mayor swore in everybody; the Judge is over the implementation of the Consent Decree. The Co-Chairs clarified that the CCPC is not dodging the issue but it, too, needs to find out who has this authority. Dr. Williams also stated we need to continue to do our work no matter who is in the room. Asked for community participation in the work of the CCPC.

- Tim Tramble of the Monitor Team stated that he wants to acknowledge that the Monitor has received the SURJ letter. The Monitor team is discussing the answer to the question regarding whether Det. Loomis presence is a conflict of interest, and they are discussing whether or not the answer is acceptable. He stated that he has to be careful in this role that he is speaking the perspective of the Monitor and not his own perspective. He reminded that every party has influence. The answer was that “he is one person.”

- Makela, a CWRU student, attended last meeting; really liked the part of the meeting where community was asked to contribute to the discussion; feels the public comment period was less productive.

- Dr. Williams clarified that when our discussion seems like “bickering,” using Makela’s word, we do disagree with each other and that is important for us to be able to do. We will continue to have the public comment period because the community asked for that. We would like to ask the public to speak to the issues that we have to have to get the community feedback on. It is being said that that the same people come all the time and say the same thing, and the the public comment periods are useless. Help us show why it is important that we have this public comment period.

- Community member provided a closing statement sharing what Monica, a community outreach/engagement specialist with the DOJ, said to her, and that is that she does not see this type of citizen participation when she is in other cities and that she is proud of Cleveland for that.

Public meeting adjourned 7:45 p.m. and Executive Session begins.