ATTENDEES:
Commissioners:
Anthony Body (excused at 7 p.m.), Kathy Clegg, Yvonne Conner, Lee Fisher, Gordon Friedman, Lynn Hampton, LaToya Logan

Staff:
Jason Goodrick, Executive Director; ChiChi Thompson, Community Engagement Coordinator; Peter Whitt, Enlightenment Consultant Group

ABSENCES:
Excused: Mario Clopton-Zymler, Dylan Sellers

Unexcused: Paul Baeppler, Amanda King, Steve Loomis

Ms. Logan called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

OVERVIEW OF MEETING AGENDA
Ms. Logan introduced the Commission’s new Co-Chairs--herself and Rev. Conner. All Commissioners introduced themselves the members of the public present.

Acknowledgement of Community Organizations and Officials
Ms. Logan asked a representative from each community group present to stand and state their organization. The following were present:
- Black on Black Crime, Inc.
- SURJ / Cleveland Nonviolence Network
- Carl Stokes Brigade
- ACLU of Ohio
- Monitoring Team
- League of Women Voters
- Cuddell Improvement CDC Ward 15
- Investigator for the Department of Justice
- Community Safety Organizer for Ohio City Incorporated

Ms. Logan reviewed the evening’s agenda and meeting structure and flow.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
June 2017 Full Commission Minutes
Ms. Logan decided to table the minutes approval due to a lack of quorum for the vote.
STAFF REPORTS

Jason Goodrick, Executive Director

Update on Hiring Process

- **Administrative Assistant** - Mr. Goodrick stated an offer has been made to an administrative assistant candidate and paperwork approval is pending.
- **Senior Policy Analyst** - Mr. Goodrick stated that there were 75 candidates – 10 finalists resulted in 8 phone interviews which were completed today and are to be scored by the panelists.
- **Community Engagement Coordinator** - The second Community Engagement Coordinator position is posted and closes August 1, 2017.

Office Space

Mr. Goodrick stated the first objective was to see if there is City space available. The only available space at this time is Public Hall and it did not meet the criteria specified by the Commission; specifically it is not move-in ready and a significant amount of money may need to be budgeted to make it habitable.

Mr. Goodrick noted that staff has contacted about 20 organizations and companies based on suggestions provided by the Commission, and are also examining other options. It resulted in two tours and one pending tour at Hanna Building. Tyler Village on Superior Ave. appears to be too small, and Rose Management on Perkins Ave. are two potential spaces.

Budget Report

- **Non-Salary Expenses July 2017**
  - $1000: food vendor at League Park (special events)
  - $1000: games and entertainment at League Park (equipment rental)
  - $178: misc. printing expenses
- **Totals**
  - $22,348.92: Encumbered/Spent as of 7/25/17
  - $372,087.08: Total unencumbered operating budget as of 7/25/17

ChiChi Thompson, Community Engagement Coordinator

Commission Website

Mrs. Thompson started with an overview of the new website (www.clecpc.org) and displayed the website for public view. She explained the website’s goal is “interactivity and ease of access.”

Events

- **League Park** - Mrs. Thompson gave an overview of the July 13, 2017 League Park event. Partners at the event included: the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Cleveland, Kernels by Chrissie, CMHA, CMHA Police Department, Fatima House, The Cleveland Public Library | Hough Branch, The Urban League, the Police Athletic League, Ohio Means Jobs. Cleveland Division of Police | Community Police Unit and Cleveland Division of Police | Recruitment.
- **Common Ground** - Mrs. Thompson promoted the Commission’s partnership with the Cleveland Foundation for an event called “Common Ground” being held on July 30th at Punch Bowl Social. Mrs. Thompson explained the process for registering for Common Ground through the website.
- **Additional Events** - Mrs. Thompson also highlighted non-CPC community events that are displayed on the CPC website (www.clecpc.org) and encouraged attendees to explore these events.

Contact Information

A community member asked for contact information and Mrs. Thompson provided the info@clecpc.org email address.
Co-Chair Report
Rev. Conner announced that a Commissioner was in a car accident. No further details were given.

Disciplinary GPO
Rev. Conner reported that the Disciplinary GPO had been released and explained that it is currently unclear which of the CPC’s recommendations were included in the final document. Rev. Conner stressed that the information was requested at the stakeholder meeting.

By-Laws
Rev. Conner reported that the DOJ and others have supplied feedback on the by-laws and the document will not be made public until it is finalized internally.

Commission Selection Process
Rev. Conner reported that the Selection Committee process for the 13th Commissioner is underway. The City is currently managing the process with its partners.

Scenario Based Training | Cleveland Division of Police Update
Rev. Conner reported that Lieut. Baeppler has determined that community members can participate in the CDP’s Scenario-Based Training. Rev. Conner assigned Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Goodrick the task of collecting sign-ups for interested community members.

Equipment Resource Follow-Up
Ms. Logan reported that the City purchased 65 new police vehicles. Per the July 11, 2017 PPA meeting, Commissioners were informed that around 200 police vehicles currently in use are in poor condition and are over 130k miles. Subsequent conversations in PPA revealed that the 65 new vehicles are not in service and officers are still using the old vehicles. Ms. Logan explained the Commissioners are asking questions via Loomis and other officers on the Commission to determine additional information about equipment condition and what technology will be in the new vehicles. In addition they will inquire about what percentage of officers will have access to the new technology. She states that they wish to have better facts to determine the technology gap and provide an update to the public.

Discussion
A community member asked whether dash cams were part of the new police vehicles. Commissioners were unclear as to whether they were or not. Another member of the public noted that the Mayor specifically noted that there were no dash cams and a Co-Chair explained that the Commission would research this further.

A community member asked what the Commission is doing to engage the families of police violence. The community member stated that she felt inaction from the City and mourns the loss for said families. Ms. Logan responded with the mission of the CPC with emphasis on the deliverables of the consent decree. Ms. Logan reinforced the current agenda (07/25/17) and that allotted time for public comment was forthcoming.
**Budget, IT and Infrastructure Committee**
Rev. Conner reports to audience that the budget is an internal document and the Commission needs to begin work on its budget for next year

**Community Engagement and Outreach Committee**
Rev. Conner resigned from the leadership of the Committee due to new Co-Chair responsibilities. Rev. Conner stressed the importance of the Committee and calls for greater community engagement, townhalls and listening events. Rev. Conner stated 3 out of 6 Committee members have re-committed to the Committee moving forward.

**CPOP Community Forums**
**Community Engagement Plan Presentation**

Ms. Logan introduced CPOP to the community and discussed the creation of CPOP. She acknowledged the negative community feedback about the process used to gather CPOP information. Ms. Logan provided an overview of the plan to assess Cleveland Police Department's activities. Ms. Logan explained that the Commission decided to ask the questions of *what should the activities be?* instead of just creating an assessment tool - the end goal identifies effective activities and tools for CPD officers to follow.

An attendee expressed an opinion that the community members who are here are not here to create this tool - they see activity as a platitude without a solution. Ms. Logan acknowledged the comment and re-explained the purpose of CPOP and the notion that this exercise is designed to develop a tangible tool and deliverable to fulfill the consent decree. Ms. Logan re-encouraged the audience to participate so that the CPC has something to work with.

Another individual expressed concern that the community is providing tangible information to the Commission that can be used to develop something tangible. Ms. Logan encouraged moving forward with the exercises and introduced Mr. Whitt and again acknowledged the top concerns about fear, use of force and other concerns.

Ms. Logan did not give presentation as mentioned in agenda as to allow community members time to explore ideas they expressed individually at their tables about Commission events, town halls and CPOP.
**Breakout Session**

Three tables of community members discussed the CPOP Community Engagement Plan with Ms. Logan, Rev. Conner, Mr. Friedman, Mr. Hampton, Dr. Clegg, Mr. Fisher, Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Goodrick serving as note-takers for the tables.

**Table 1**
- Most important word: “listening” - with more experiences with police officers one on one
- Community education presented by the police to community
- Community wants more “visible” officers - beyond patrol
- Advertisement: churches, press releases, libraries
- Hire more officers - but “we don’t have the resources”
- Need to do more to lure more officers to the job

**Table 2**
- D.A.R.E. should be more interactive
- Increase communication strategies - greater empathy is necessary
- Do the police believe they have a problem? - acknowledge that reform is necessary but are at “standstill”
- “Assumption is that the shift is easy” - the tradition of policing takes time, many times it is not “fast enough”

**Table 3**
- The culture of policing “destroys” potential applicants
- Who negotiates on the communities behalf? - Current officers don’t respect community members
- CPPA “Glenville murders”
- Personal anecdote about “unjust” police stops
- Collective bargaining -what qualifies as a “determinative event”
- Who decided that the Cleveland police could create community engagement?
- “I fear for my life” = dog whistle for justified use of violence
- CPD is followed by satellite and outer-borough police departments - outlook is “not good”
- Meeting with Judge Oliver necessary
**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mr. Whitt reviewed the public comment period ground rules.

**Use of Force**
A community member (who is also a CPD officer) stated that CPD policies and actions were in line initially, now new recruits and officers are trained with newer use of force guidelines and policies. Nevertheless, there is an “adjustment gap” for the officers that are not new CPD recruits. Regarding use of force, an officer can operate up to the constitutional level but the policies are different than the constitutional level. The officer repeated that training is “situation-based” and race was not a factor.

Mr. Friedman commended the attendee that was both a community member and CPD officer for attending the CPC meeting yet Mr. Friedman disturbed by the use of force training for current recruits.

An attendee responded to the CPD officer about the notion that Cleveland was a “war zone” - between White officers and minority community members.

A community activist asked how much compassion it requires to protect the lives of young Black citizens in Cleveland.

Ms. Logan does not desire use of force training for adolescents.

**De-Escalation Techniques**
An individual stated that the CPD notion of de-escalation was poor and CPD required outside help to further train officers.

**Diversity Training**
Community member asked CPD officer if there was diversity training for officers explaining that the community is not make up of criminals, drug dealers or thugs.

Mr. Hampton responds that all new recruits are taught diversity training in the academy and that Police Chief Williams has made this a priority.

An individual detailed “color-blindness” was detrimental to diversity training.

An attendee called the Use of Force training information impressive.

Ms. Logan commented training for cultural competency, implicit bias, bias-free policing (race, religion, language barriers etc…) for CPD officers is essential.

**Community Policing**
An attendee remarked that policing in years past was about protecting the community - now it is about “fear” which jeopardizes the community and officers alike. Community member also implored officers to be involved with the communities they protect and serve. Individual restated that all community members have a right to live.
Mental Health and Homeless Populations
Community member stated that veterans and housing insecure interactions with the police are also not being adequately addressed with regards to the consent decree. Acknowledged crisis intervention training for all police officers but unable to see the changes implemented; especially unaware of the trainings approved by Judge Oliver.

Future of the CPC
An attendee asked about the long-term goals of the CPC and if the CPC will be institutionalized.

Mr. Friedman responded that the Civilian Review Police Board is separate from the CPC, hiring staff for the CPC was a part of the consent decree and that the CPC is not to be a part of an institution but to assist Commissioners on the goals of the consent decree.

Community member lamented that the CPC is “suggestions based” and has no authoritative power to mandate changes which is a “loss.”

Ms. Logan responds that the business of the CPC makes it seem as though the CPC is unintentionally unresponsive. Ms. Logan stressed the importance of work product to fulfill the requirements of the consent decree. Lastly, Ms. Logan stated without a work product, the community lacks a voice in the process of the consent decree. Additionally, Ms. Logan reminds community members that the CPC is solutions-based; in order to move towards community policing, community members must come with solutions to the problems outlined in the consent decree.

Bias Free Policing
CPD officer responded that training is “based on the situation and not race” and that CPD responds to situations and not race.

Mr. Whitt remarks that bias falls onto everyone in this room yet people of color are overrepresented in police violence.

A community member responds to Mr. Whitt stating that bias-free policing policies can be implemented and created to guide officers, but situation-based training ignores implicit bias and cultural sensitivities. He continues detailing that when officers are unfamiliar, their judgement is clouded. He aims to make sure that CPD officers know that acknowledgment that there is a race component is “essential” to bias-free policing and community policing.

Another attendee describes the history of the CPPA from www.cppa.org from the “Glenville/Hough Riots” section as revisionist history.

Dirtbikes in Cleveland
Mr. Hampton commented that dirtbikes are a nuisance.

Community member responded stating community members refuse to call the police about dirt bikes for fear CPD will shoot first. Individual continued stating without consequence real change is impossible.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.