

Commissioner

Present Janet E. Jackson, Chair
Absent Brooke Burns
Present LaShaun Carter
Present Tammy Founier-Alsaada
Present Dr. Chenelle Jones
Present Dr. Vlad Kogan
Present Matthew McCrystal
Present Ellen Moore Griffin
Present Andrea Morbitzer
Present Pastor Jason Ridley
Absent Traci Shaw
Present Erin Synk
Present Oleatha Waugh
Present Mary Wehrle
Present Tiffany White
Present Dr. Reginald Wilkinson
Present Emily Buster

Staff

Present Bryan Clark
Present Elon Simms
Present Chief Kim Jacobs
Present Director Ned Pettus Jr., Ph.D
Present Tracy Retchin
Present George Speaks
Present Joshua Cox
Present Thomas Quinlan
Present Bob Stewart
Present Jeffrey Furbee
Present Zak Davidson
Present Robin Davis
Present Kate Pishotti
Present Ken Paul
Present Priyam Chokshi

MEETING MINUTES

WELCOME

Mayor Andrew J. Ginther welcomed the Columbus Community Safety Advisory Commission ("Safety Commission") to the first meeting. Mayor Ginther discussed the launch of the Comprehensive Neighborhood Safety Strategy and his commitment to the City to produce a number of initiatives to improve safety in Columbus. One of those is this citizen-led commission to ensure the Columbus Division of Police meets our residents' expectations, and serves and protects every person in every neighborhood. Mayor Ginther expressed his gratitude to each commissioner for their willingness to serve in this important work.

Mayor Ginther emphasized that the purpose of the Commission is to review Columbus Division of Police recruitment, training, policies and procedures. Mayor Ginther explained to the commission that they will focus on areas such as de-escalation, crisis intervention and implicit bias training, use of force policies, diversity recruitment and retention, and early intervention and officer wellness programs. He went on to share that the commission will review existing research of respected law enforcement and social justice experts and share recommendations with the Mayor to further strengthen the Division of Police. Mayor Ginther reminded the group that they would help identify an objective, independent consultant to support their work.

Mayor Ginther again expressed his thanks to each of the commissioners for their service. Turned meeting over the Chair Janet Jackson.



INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMISSION

Safety Commission Chair Janet E. Jackson provided opening remarks to the group. Informed the Safety Commission that there would be a great deal of material to study and a number of topics to explore. Reminded the commission that change is hard and that the group will not always agree. Shared with the group that it would likely face much comment and criticism from people outside of the Commission as the commission proceeds; as it already has.

Additionally, Chair Jackson asked for each commissioner to remember, throughout this process, that the commission was created for the good of the people of Columbus both now and in the future. Chair Jackson stated that there is need every person in the room to be all in. Chair Jackson concluded with her background and shared that each commissioner was chosen for their unique perspectives. Chair Jackson expressed her grateful to each commissioner for what they would bring to the table.

GROUP INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Jackson invited commissioners and staff to introduce themselves. Those present shared their name and their professional background.

PLEDGE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT, OVERVIEW

Tracy Retchin, City of Columbus Chief Ethics Officer provided an overview of the City of Columbus Ethics Policy and Ohio's Ethics Law. Mrs. Retchin shared that the city's ethics policy is a citywide commitment to accountability and transparency – to ensure the highest degree of public trust. Mrs. Retchin explained that ethics laws can pertain to private parties (shared the private sector e-course: <http://ethics.ohio.gov/education/elearning/PrivateSector/index.html>).

Additional information can be found here:

<http://ethics.ohio.gov/education/elearning/PrivateSector/index.html>).

Mrs. Retchin explained that Mayor Ginther signed Executive Order: 2016-01 (Ethics and Conduct – Accountability and Integrity for Effective Governance. This executive order:

- Enforces the administration's policy regarding conflicts of interest, public contracts, gifts, sales to public agencies, and confidentiality, among other matters.
- Establishes a set of general principles and guidelines for ethical behavior, expectations, responsibility, and civic duty.
- Sets highest ethical standards to prevent undue influence, bias, and appearance of impropriety.
- Requires ethics education and training.

Mrs. Retchin explained that each commissioner would sign a Pledge of Ethical Conduct. Each commissioner present was provided the pledge to sign. All commissioners present turned in their signed pledges.

Mrs. Retchin concluded her presentation with information on By-laws, Duty of Care, Conflict of Interest, Disclosure/Recusal, Professional Excellence, Equal Opportunity, Confidentiality, and



use of the City of Columbus brand. Mrs. Retchin turned meeting over Chair Jackson. Mrs. Retchin's PowerPoint will be added to the meeting minutes.

OPEN MEETINGS AND OPEN RECORDS LAWS

Chair Jackson introduced Joshua Cox, Chief Counsel in the Office of City Attorney Zach Klein. Mr. Cox provided information on open records and open meetings laws. Mr. Cox explained to the Safety Commission that they are performing a function of the government. Therefore, any documents they generate, send or received, as it relates to the commission, are public record. Mr. Cox explained that personal notes are not subject to open records laws. Mr. Cox went on to share that text messages do apply.

As it relates to open meetings, Mr. Cox explained the 3 requirements of open meetings. Those requirements are:

1. A notice must be sent to the public
2. Meeting is open to the public
3. Meeting minutes must be document

(*Items one and 3 are completed by City of Columbus staff for this commission)

This portion of the meeting concluded with discussions when and where the business of the commission should be discussed, the potential to have conference calls, and how the public will view meeting meetings.

SAFETY COMMISSION BYLAWS, DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION

Chair Jackson reviewed the bylaws with the commission. Chair Jackson asked for a motion to approve the bylaws. Ms. Griffin moved to approve the bylaws as written. Ms. Wehrle seconded the motion. **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, INTRODUCTION

Ned Pettus Jr., Ph.D., Director of Public Safety, provided a brief overview of the Department of Public Safety. Director Pettus shared that the police and fire departments became accredited by Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) in 1989. In his remarks, Director Pettus explained to the commissioners the status of the implementation of body worn cameras, the lack of diversity in police and fire and the distrust that our communities have with law enforcement. Director Pettus explained that despite our knowledge of best practices in public safety, there is a recognition that we are not perfect. Director Pettus concluded his remarks by sharing that this commission will help public safety build upon and improve their efforts.

COLUMBUS DIVISION OF POLICE, INTRODUCTION

Columbus Police Chief Kim Jacobs provided an overview of CPD, sharing the Vision, Mission and Core Values (Professional, Respect, Integrity, Discipline, and Enthusiasm) of the department. Chief Jacobs' PowerPoint will be added to the meeting minutes.

COLUMBUS DIVISION OF POLICE, ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW & METRICS



George Speaks, Deputy Director (D/D) of Public Safety, provided a more in depth description of the Department of Public Safety. D/D Speaks discussed the proposed 2018 budget, organizational structure, and number of sworn and civilian personnel. D/D Speaks transitioned to share the processes for officer recruitment, testing, hiring, and the ongoing officer training. Through D/D Speaks' presentation, commissioners received the 2017 data on the numbers of calls for service, homicides by precinct, weapons violations by precinct, and the number of firearms recovered. D/D Speaks' PowerPoint will be added to the meeting minutes.

Additionally, commissioners were provided with a ten year comparison of population vs. the number of violent crimes, instances of use of force and use of firearms, a 12 year comparison of citizen complaints, and CPD's community outreach efforts.

SAFETY CONSULTANT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS, OVERVIEW

Bryan Clark, Chief Policy Advisor in the Office of Mayor Andrew J. Ginther, shared the process for the Request for Proposals ("RFP") to hire the consultant that will support the work of the Safety Commission. Commissioners received electronic and hard copies of the RFP. A copy of Mr. Clark's prepared remarks will be added to the meeting minutes.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION: PROPOSED SUBJECT AREAS

Chair Jackson reviewed the meeting summary with the commissioners, sharing that the commission would learn the current policies, practices, and procedures of the Columbus Police Department. Chair Jackson explained that this would allow for the commission to have the same level of understanding of these policies, practices, and procedures as they work to provide recommendation to the Mayor.

REVIEW OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday May 9, 2018 from 9am – 3pm at the Columbus Police Training Academy (1000 N. Hague Ave. Columbus, OH 43204) – Room 137.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 7:05pm

