

**City of Chicago**  
**COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING TYPE	Regular Meeting
MEETING DATE	Thursday, February 27, 2025
MEETING LOCATION	Sullivan High School
TIME CALLED TO ORDER	6:36PM

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Name	Present or Absent / In-Person or Remote
<b>Anthony Driver, Jr. – President, Chair</b>	Present, In Person
<b>Aaron Gottlieb</b>	Present, In Person
<b>Abierre Minor</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Remel Terry – Vice President</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Angel Rubi Navarijo</b>	Present, In-Person
<b>Sandra Wortham</b>	Present, In Person

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes.

**Acronyms:**

CCPSA = Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability

COPA = Civilian Office of Police Accountability

CPD = Chicago Police Department

PB = Police Board

- I. President Driver called the meeting to order.
- II. President Driver called the roll and established the quorum.
- III. The Commission held a public comment session. Eight (8) speakers offered comments. Public comment may be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page:  
[www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa](http://www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa).

**IV. District Council Updates**

Before beginning the meeting business, President Driver gave information regarding the monthly District Council updates the Commission receives. These updates include the DCs' top concerns of their district and progress they are making in restorative justice and community policing. President Driver highlighted a few issues flagged by district 24, where Sullivan High School is located within; and district 20, which is adjacent to the school.

- District 24 concerns
  - Immigration enforcement
  - Hate crimes
  - Gang violence
  - Openair drug markets
  - Utility of CAPS meetings
  - Amount of time CPD uses on parking related issues
  - When to contact 311 vs. 911

- District 20 concerns
  - Traffic stops
  - CPD investigations
  - Communications with district leaders
  - Car thefts
  - Need for more violence prevention
  - Need for Narcan training
  - Better investigation of gun crimes
  - Better traffic stop tactics
  - How gentrification affects public safety

President Driver urged the members of the District Council to continue to share district concerns with the Commission so that both entities can work as a unit to better Chicago.

## **V. Approval of the Minutes**

President Driver called for a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on January 30, 2025. Commissioner Wortham expressed that she provided via email some corrections to the meeting minutes in the morning of the Commission meeting. She read aloud her corrections to the section of the minutes with her verbal exchange with Commissioner Minor:

*"Commissioner Minor indicated that prior to her public comment on the issue, she spoke with Commissioners who were available at the meeting. I was at that meeting, and my response I clarified that Commissioner Minor did not speak with me prior to making her public comment. I also indicated it is important to me to ensure all members of the community from all perspectives feel welcome and comfortable at our meetings.*

*I further indicated that I have heard from members of the community who have indicated that they do not feel comfortable at CCPSA meetings because of the aggressive language and behavior of some attendees."*

In addition, Commissioner Wortham referred to the third sentence of the second paragraph, and requested the following revision:

*"Commissioner Wortham recounted that she and Commissioner Terry did not initially answer the CPD policy question because that was not the format of the meeting; however, Commissioner Wortham further indicated that moving forward, she believes it to be the responsibility of the Commission to provide relevant information to the public regarding existing Chicago Police Department policies where said information will be useful for the conversation."*

President Driver clarified if Commissioner Wortham is requesting a motion for these revisions to be added to the record. Commissioner Wortham confirmed. President Driver seconded the motion and called for a motion to approve the January 30, 2025 meeting minutes with the addition from Commissioner Wortham. Commissioner Wortham seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion passed 6-0.

## **VI. Vote to Amend Bylaws (Decorum)**

Commissioner Driver introduced the next order of business: an amendment to the public comment and decorum section of the Commission's bylaws. He explained that Commission

meetings are a place where people express very strong opinions. The Commission has to be a place where we can have hard conversations about difficult issues. The bylaws amendment we are going to discuss today is not about limiting those conversations. It's about making sure that everyone can be heard, and that we can all focus on the important issues that the Commission is addressing or should address.

This amendment provides that public comment being given at the Commission's meetings must be limited to issues of concern before the Commission and issues related to the business of the Commission. Comments of a personal nature that are unrelated to the operations or business of the Commission, directed towards individual Commissioners, employees of CCPSA, or any other individual are not permitted.

It further provides that unauthorized remarks, stamping feet, whistling, and similar demonstrations are prohibited during any meeting of the Commission and that during any meeting of the Commission, people must not:

- Interrupt the Commission's proceedings or the comments of any person recognized by the Chair in any manner.
- Make profane, vulgar, threatening, abusive, disruptive, or slanderous remarks.
- Display disruptive behavior, including disruptive or disrespectful conduct during others' presentations.
- Display demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behavior and speech directed towards others.
- Hold, wave, or display any banner or sign in a way that causes a physical hazard or blocks another person's view of the proceedings.
- Refuse to follow the instructions of the Chair or comply with these policies or any other rules governing the Commission's proceedings.

People who engage in behaviors prohibited by the amendment will be asked to cease engaging in the conduct, if it continues it will result in removal. When violations of these rules of decorum occur, a Commissioner can make a point of order. If a Commissioner makes a point of order about decorum, they will need to specifically cite how an individual violated decorum. The Chair or a majority of the Commissioners present may determine whether a violation has occurred.

This amendment also contains:

- A provision requiring that whenever members of the public wish to make comment, even if it regards a concern about an individual Commissioner's performance of their duties, the comments must be directed to the entire Commission.
- A provision allowing the Chair to ask speakers with similar comments to select a representative to speak on their behalf. This may be asked in the event there are more speakers than time for public comment.

The amendment up for consideration currently has two (2) versions. Version A includes the information previously mentioned. Version B has a few modifications:

- It removes the provision calling for commentators to select a speaker to represent a group of predominant comments
- It also explicitly details that Commissioners should use Roberts Rules of Order to address situations where a Commissioner violates a rule of decorum.

Commissioner Driver allowed for debate on the matter. Commissioner Wortham expressed she has a concern for the proposed versions of the bylaws amendment. She explained that version

B was proposed by Commissioner Minor, and it adds a clause that says, “communications will aim to be respectful”. Commissioner Wortham continued to express that “respectful” is completely subjective. The Commission has a diversity of opinion, and adding the clauses of version B will open every Commissioner up to being unfairly attacked for expressing their opinion on certain issues. Commissioner Wortham added that she believes version A is extremely thorough, details, and keeps the Commissioners and the audience in line to make sure everyone engages in professional behavior and gives everyone room and respect to express themselves.

Commissioner Minor addressed Commissioner Wortham’s explanation of disrespect being subjective. She recounted the interaction she witnessed at the January 2025 Traffic Stop listening session between Commissioner Wortham and an audience member. She explained that following the interaction, she and other Commissioners received community feedback saying they did not feel heard or safe.

Commissioner Terry called a point of order. Commissioner Driver called a motion to table the vote to amend the bylaws until the next public meeting. Commissioner Terry seconded. A roll call vote was completed by a show of hands. Commissioners Terry, Driver, Wortham, and Rubi Navarajo voted to table the vote amending the bylaws. Commissioners Gottlieb and Minor voted not to table the vote amending the bylaws. The motion passed 4-2.

## **VII. Reports and Updates**

### COPA Chief Administrator Search

Commissioner Terry and Driver gave an update on the COPA Chief Administrator search. COPA Chief Administrator Andrea Kersten recently announced that she will step down from her position. Her last day as Chief Administrator will be February 28, 2025. By law, the Mayor has the power to select an interim Chief Administrator to lead COPA until a permanent Chief Administrator is selected, confirmed, and takes office. And by law, when there is a vacancy in the position of Chief Administrator of COPA, the Commission is responsible for appointing the permanent Chief Administrator. The Commission’s selection of a Chief Administrator is subject to City Council approval, similar to the Superintendent process.

MCC Section 2-80-080(b) sets out the process that the Commission must follow to select the Chief Administrator of COPA:

1. The Commission has to select a nationally recognized organization with expertise in government oversight to help perform a nationwide search.
2. That organization has to identify at least ten candidates.
3. The Commission has to review the candidates and find the one that best fulfills the qualifications laid out in COPA’s ordinance.
4. After the Commission selects a nominee, the mayor may provide written input on the Commission's selection.
5. Then the Commission's selected candidate will go before the City Council Committee on Police and Fire for a hearing.
6. If a majority of the Public Safety Committee supports the Commission’s candidate, the candidate will be voted on by the full City Council.
7. If a majority of the City Council supports the candidate, they will become the next COPA Chief Administrator.
8. If the City Council rejects the Commission's selected candidate, then the Commission has 30 days to select a new candidate, and the process starts over again.

The Commission will host four public hearings on the search for the next Chief Administrator: one on the North Side, one on the West Side, one on the South Side, and one virtually. At these hearings, Commissioners will provide information about COPA's function, responsibilities, and jurisdiction. Commissioners will then gather public comment on

- a. What qualities the community would like in a new Chief Administrator,
- b. What priorities should be the focus of the new Chief Administrator, and
- c. Any other considerations for how Commissioners should assess candidates.

These public hearings will take place before the Commission evaluates applications.

For more details regarding the Commission's role in selecting the COPA Chief Administrator, please visit our website.

### Traffic Stops Work

Commissioners Gottlieb and Terry provided an update on traffic stops. The Commission is engaged in ongoing conversations with the Department of Law and CPD about traffic stops policy. As described in previous meetings, the Independent Monitor in the CPD Consent Decree has said that traffic stops should be included in the Consent Decree. The Consent Decree judge will decide whether traffic stops will be included in the Consent Decree. Right now, the Commission has authority to make traffic stops policy. The Commission's position has been that IF traffic stops are incorporated in the Consent Decree, the Commission must continue to play a major role in developing the policy.

The Consent Decree was written and approved before the Commission was established. The Consent Decree doesn't define a role for the Commission in policymaking under the Consent Decree. The Commission has been working with CPD and the City of Chicago's Department of Law to develop a plan for how the Commission would work on traffic stops policy, if traffic stops are included in the Consent Decree.

The Commission and CPD have agreed that the process would look very much like the process the Commission and CPD now use to develop CPD policy. The Commission and CPD will meet to discuss traffic stop policy ideas. Then CPD will do a first draft of a policy. Then the Commission will review the draft and make comments and suggestions. If there are any suggestions from the Commission that CPD doesn't want to incorporate, then the Commission and CPD have to meet to try to resolve their differences.

If the Commission and CPD agree on a policy proposal, then that policy will get submitted to the Illinois Attorney General's Office and to the Independent Monitor for further review. If the Commission and CPD don't agree on a policy proposal, then both the Commission proposal and the CPD proposal will get submitted to the Attorney General and the Monitor.

In either case, the Attorney General and the Monitor will review the policy or policies. The Consent Decree lays out a process for working to get agreement among CPD, the Attorney General, and the Monitor. For traffic stops policy, the Commission will be a full participant in that process to try to resolve any differences with CPD, the Attorney General, and the Monitor. If there are any issues that CPD, the Attorney General, the Monitor, and the Commission can't resolve, the Court will be the final decision-maker. That's the process that is required under the consent decree.

The process we have agreed to with CPD says that public engagement will continue to be a central part of the Commission's work. Now that the Commission and CPD have agreed on the

process, we're focusing on the policy. The Commission and CPD have started meeting to discuss policy details, and we'll provide updates on that work at the Commission's future public meetings.

The Commission has also created a webpage on the CCPSA website with more information regarding traffic stops. There, you can find our community feedback survey, details of upcoming listening sessions, current CPD policies related to traffic stops, and an overview of what your rights are when you are stopped by police. We will provide more updates as they become available.

#### Extremism Taskforce

Commissioner Minor provided an update on the Mayor's taskforce to address extremism. Last week, the Mayor's Office announced that a task force was created. The Task Force is chaired by Garien Gatewood (Deputy Mayor for Public Safety) and Carla Kupe (Mayor's Office of Equity and Racial Justice). The Task Force includes several City departments that play a role in CPD hiring, along with Commissioners Terry and Minor, who serve as Commission representatives on the Task Force.

The task force is currently in Phase One, identifying any current or ongoing work happening in the city related to preventing, identifying, and eliminating extremism and anti-government activities and associations. Commissioner Terry and Minor will meet with the full task force next month to hear about the other departments' current work and any places where the departments have identified gaps in their work or supports needed to accomplish their goals.

Commissioner Wortham asked for a point of clarity on whether the Mayor's taskforce was created to address extremism across ALL city departments, not just within CPD. Commissioner Minor responded that the taskforce has a "whole of government" approach.

#### Noncitizen Advisory Council

Commissioner Rubi Navarajo provided an update on the Noncitizen Advisory Council. The first meeting of the new noncitizen advisory council was held this week. The NAC was created to advise the Commission on the perspectives and experiences of Chicago residents who are not United States citizens and ensure that those views are reflected and incorporated into the Commission's work. The new council is currently undertaking the job of developing and establishing the NAC's purpose, structure, and operational process.

Once the NAC has completed this responsibility and shared this with the Commission, the NAC will begin undertaking the work enacted in CCPSA's ordinance. The NAC has already expressed an interest in issues such as:

- T- and U-Visa applications,
- Mis-information campaigns in the immigrant community,
- and noncitizen perspectives on traffic stops.

The Commission looks forward to expanding its relationships with the noncitizen and immigrant communities in Chicago and gaining valuable insights on public safety issues from these communities in the coming months.

#### CPD Policy



Commissioner Wortham provided an update from the CPD policy working group. Commissioner Terry and Wortham met with CPD on February 20th. This meeting included discussions of General Orders that were previously passed by the Commission and information was also shared regarding the Commission's community engagement work on traffic stops. The working group's next meeting with CPD is scheduled for March 6th.

Commissioner Gottlieb asked which general orders were discussed at the policy meeting with CPD. Commissioner Wortham answered:

- The implementation of G01-11-01 and its rollout of discussions between CPD, District Council, and the Commission, and
- Traffic stops community engagement.

Commissioner Gottlieb asked if there was discussion on G08-03 Prohibition on Associations with Criminal Organizations. Commissioner Wortham responded that there was discussion regarding tracking the implementation of G08-03.

### **VIII. Miscellaneous Business**

Commissioner Gottlieb addressed that he requested at the last Commission meeting for future traffic stop listening sessions, to rotate Commissioner duties of sitting on the panel, rather than it being the sole role of the working group. He added he believes the rotation should apply to all working groups. He would be open to voting upon this suggestion at the next public meeting.

Commissioner Driver responded saying all Commissioners are aware of the process for adding items to the meeting agendas. As long as Commissioner requests are given to him and Commissioner Terry within the appropriate timeframe, it can be added to the notice and agenda. Commissioner Terry commented on the topic saying she encourages all Commissioners that want to participate in listening sessions, be in attendance and engage in the listening sessions.

Commissioner Gottlieb addressed an additional topic regarding two proposed ordinances in City Council: (1) removing COPA's investigatory power of police conduct and (2) getting rid of District Councils as they are now. He expressed he is strongly opposed to both ordinances and recommends the public look into the proposed timelines. Commissioner Driver added that both ordinances were introduced and sent to the Rules Committee.

### **IX. Announcement of the Next Meeting**

Commissioner Driver announced that the next traffic stop listening session will be Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at Tilden High School. The next Commission meeting will be Thursday, March 27, 2025 at DuSable Museum.

### **X. Close**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33PM