

City of Chicago
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE	Regular Meeting
MEETING DATE	Thursday, March 27, 2025
MEETING LOCATION	DuSable Museum
TIME CALLED TO ORDER	6:41PM

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Name	Present or Absent / In-Person or Remote
Anthony Driver, Jr. – President	Absent
Aaron Gottlieb	Present, In Person
Abierre Minor	Present, In-Person
Angel Rubi Navarijo	Present, In-Person
Remel Terry – Vice President, Chair	Present, In-Person
Sandra Wortham	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. Vice President Terry called the meeting to order.
- II. Vice President Terry called the roll and established the quorum.
- III. The Commission held a public comment session. Ten (10) speakers offered comments. Public comment may be viewed at the Chicago CCPSA YouTube page:
www.youtube.com/@chicagoccpsa.

IV. Approval of the Minutes

Vice President Terry called for a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held on February 27. Commissioner Rubi Navarijo seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion passed 5-0.

V. New Business

Vote to Authorize Closed Meetings

Vice President Terry explained that Section 2a of the Act authorizes the Commission to take a vote to hold a series of closed meetings over the course of not more than 3 months from today,

and only for the purposes cited under Section 2(c)(3).

Over the next few months, the Commission may need to meet in closed session for reasons that are allowed under the Open Meetings Act, including to discuss filling vacancies in a public office.

Vice President Terry called for a motion to hold a series of closed meetings for the maximum period allowable, and only for the purposes cited under Section 2(c)(3) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Gottlieb seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion passed 4-0.

Vote to Amend the Bylaws – Decorum

Vice President Terry introduced the next order of business: an amendment to the public comment and decorum section of the Commission's bylaws. 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. The amendment also makes it clear that the Commission must abide by Robert's Rules of Order in public meetings.

The amendment also updates the public comment and decorum sections of the Commission's bylaws. The full update is accessible on the CCPSA [website](#).

Prior to the motion, Commissioner Wortham provided comments regarding the amendment. She commented that the amendment language is still vague and needs to be clear that expressing a different opinion on an issue is not considered demeaning to someone or disrespectful. The current language leaves room for that to be misinterpreted and potentially abused.

Vice President Terry called for a motion to adopt the proposed amendment to the bylaws. Commissioner Minor seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion passed 4-1.

VI. Reports and Updates

Vote to Fill DC003 Vacancy

Commissioner Rubi Navarajo explained the Commission has a recommendation to fill the District Council member vacancy in the 3rd district. Under state law, when there is a vacancy in an elected position in Chicago, the Mayor has the power to fill the vacancy. But under City ordinance, when there is a vacancy for an elected District Council position, the District Council and the Commission also play a role in filling the vacancy. Under Chicago Municipal Code Section 2-80-070, when there is a vacancy in a District Council, the existing members of the District Council have 30 days to nominate three candidates for the vacancy to the Commission. The Commission then has a total of 60 days from the creation of the vacancy to select one of these candidates to recommend to the mayor for appointment to the District Council. Then the Mayor chooses someone to fill the vacancy.

Commissioner Rubi Navarajo called for a motion to recommend the mayor appoint Anthony Crawford to DC003. Commissioner Wortham seconded the motion. There was no debate on the matter and the motion resulted in a tie. The Chair made a tie breaking vote in support of Anthony Crawford.

COPA Chief Administrator Search

Vice President Terry provided an update on the COPA Chief Search. COPA Chief Administrator Andrea Kersten recently stepped down from her position. Her last day as Chief Administrator was February 28th. 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. By law, when there is a vacancy in the position of Chief Administrator of COPA, the Commission is responsible for appointing a permanent Chief Administrator. The Commission's selection of the Chief Administrator is subject to City Council approval.

On March 25th, the Commission hosted the first of four public hearings on the search for the next Chief Administrator. Next month, we will hold a virtual listening session. In May and June, we will host two additional listening sessions; one on the south side and one on the west side. At these hearings, Commissioners will provide information about what COPA's functions, responsibilities, and jurisdictions are. Commissioners will then gather public comment on the following:

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

These public hearings will take place prior to the evaluation of application. For more details regarding the Commission's role and selecting the COPA Chief Administrator, please visit our [website](#).

Traffic Stops

Commissioners Gottlieb and Wortham provided an update on traffic stops. They reminded the public that the Independent Monitor for the CPD consent decree has recommended that traffic stops be included in the consent decree. That would give the Illinois Attorney General and the Independent Monitor a role in reviewing traffic stop policy and potentially in making changes to traffic stop policy. Training about the policy and implementation of the policy would be overseen by the Independent Monitor and Judge Pallmeyer if traffic stops end up being included in the Consent Decree.

The inclusion of traffic stops in the Consent Decree is not solely up to the City, which includes CCPSA and CPD. It will require the agreement of the Office of the Attorney General, a public hearing on the issue, and ultimately approval by the Court. If traffic stops are not included in the Consent Decree, the Commission would have the legal authority to work with CPD and to draft the review and approve traffic stop policy. The Commission's position has been that if traffic stops are included in the Consent Decree, the Commission must continue to play a significant role in making the policy. We now have an agreement that describes how the Commission and CPD will work together through the Consent Decree process.

Noncitizen Advisory Council

Commissioner Rubi Navarijo provided an update on the Noncitizen Advisory Council. CPD updated their U/T visa policy special order, and will be put into effect this week. The Commission is looking at the policy and hope to have a further update for the community before our April meeting, as well as consulting with our NAC what next steps can be and what role the CCPSA can take. U/T visas are a vital form of victim services for noncitizens, therefore this update is important for the community to know.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Minor gave remarks highlighting her work with the Commission since her June 2024 appointment. She highlighted her initial priorities and commitments shared with the public on June 7, 2024:

- Reduce racial disparities in Chicago's crime clearance rates;
- Addressing racial disparities in traffic stops;
- Advocating for proactive protectives for domestic violence;
- Exploring and implementing alternatives to traditional policing; and
- Building transparent, equitable relationships between the community, District Councils and the police.

She expressed she is a co-leader in the CPD goals working group, deeply invested in CPD's Workforce Allocation Study, an advocate of substantially restricting traffic stops for low-level equipment and traffic violations, an advocate of ending consent searches unless there is probable cause of a crime, and remains committed to victim services for survivors.

Commissioner Gottlieb followed up with miscellaneous remarks highlighting his support for:

- Substantially restricting the use of consent searches,
- Substantially restricting low-level stops, and
- Substantially restricting the use of pretextual stops.

VII. Announcement of the Next Meeting

Commissioner Terry announced that the next meeting will be Thursday, April 24, 2025, 6:30PM at Pui Tak Center.

VIII. Close

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33PM