

City of Chicago

District Council 002

Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Type: ☒ Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed

Meeting Date: April 17, 2025

Location: Greater Harvest Church, 5141 S State St.

Meeting Start Time: 6:09 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 7:42 PM

Attendance & Quorum

OMA requires 2 out of 3 members to be present in person.

Council Member	Attendance
Chair: Ephraim Lee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Nominator: Marquinn McDonald	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present
Community Engagement: Alexander Perez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present

Quorum Met: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- **Motion:** Approve minutes from the March 13 monthly meeting
- **Proposed by:** Alexander Perez
- **Seconded by:** Ephraim Lee
- **Third by:** Marquinn McDonald
- **Outcome:** Approved unanimously

Chair Remarks and Acknowledgments – Ephraim Lee

- **Special Acknowledgment:** Alderman Dowell and her staff member, Allison
 - **Recognition:** New members of Acclivus
 - **Update:** Pullman event led to a 24% reduction in shootings
 - **Introduction:** Commander Williams III, the new District 2 Commander, is committed to community safety
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Presentations

1. Alternative Safety Initiatives

Presenter: Dr. Ige, Chicago Department of Public Health

- **Focus:** Community-based safety alternatives to traditional policing
- **Key Components:**
 - Mental health crisis response teams
 - Violence prevention programs
 - Restorative justice
 - Addressing root causes (poverty, trauma, substance use)
- **CARES Program Highlights:**
 - Eight operational teams and a citywide team
 - 50% of individuals decline services (trust issues)
 - Goals: Reduce hospitalizations, improve community resource access
- **Future Plans:**
 - Expand district coverage, especially District 2
 - Strengthening partnerships and awareness

2. Reentry Programs for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals

Presenter: Director Joseph Mapp, Office of Reentry

- **Statistics:**
 - 70% with mental health conditions; 33% severe disorders
- **Initiative:**
 - Five support centers providing housing, jobs, and mental health services
 - ARP-funded until 2026, with proposed budget increase from \$5M to \$10M

3. Community Engagement and Events

Presenter: Alexander Perez

- **National Night Out (August):**
 - 100-backpack goal
 - Free haircuts from volunteer barbers
- **Training Observation Day:**

- Recommendation: Encourage community participation
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Paint and Learn:** May 2 & May 9, 6 PM at Collab Studios on 47
 - **Women's Self-Protection Workshop:** April 26, 12–2 PM at 4622 S King Dr
 - **Bronzeville Community Center Input:** villageleadershipacademy.com

4. Police Department Updates and Compliance

Presenter: Ephraim Lee

- **Independent Monitoring Report:**
 - 16% full compliance
 - 34% preliminary, 42% secondary, 7% non-compliance
- **Consent Decree:** Ongoing collaboration with CPD
- **Next Meeting:** April 24, Puyat Center, Chinatown
 - **Agenda Topics:**
 - CPD Workforce Allocation
 - Traffic Stop Policy
 - COPA Search Update
 - 2025 Q1 Goals

Community Discussion

1. **Ms. Shapiro** – Concern about Felony Review Bypass pilot program:
 - Potential for due process violations
 - Request to reverse the program and improve transparency
2. **Ms. Muhammad** – Clarification:
 - State's Attorney still approves charges
 - Pilot aims to reduce delays, not remove oversight
3. **Mr. Starks** – Inquired about the local application of the program
4. **Public Comment:**
 - Recitation of Martin Niemöller's "*First They Came*" as a call to unity

Action Items

Community & Event Participation

- Donate backpacks and recruit barbers for **National Night Out**
- Promote and register for **Paint and Learn** (May 2 & 9)
- Support attendance for **Women's Self-Protection Workshop** (April 26)
- Provide input for the **Bronzeville Community Center**

Program Awareness

- Increase CARES program visibility via radio, meetings, and outreach

Training & Engagement

- Encourage attendance at de-escalation and crisis training sessions

Advocacy & Policy

- Advocate for sustained funding for CARES and reentry programs
 - Organize a **dedicated meeting** to address concerns over the **Felony Review Bypass Program**
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Follow-Up Points & Upcoming Meetings

- **Next Regular Meeting:**
 - **Date:** May 17
 - **Time:** 10:00 AM
 - **Location:** Timothy Center, 4351 S. Drexel Blvd
 - **Agenda:** Cook County State's Attorney attendance, possible inclusion of a licensed social worker
 - **Reentry Reconvening:**
 - **Date:** April 30
 - **Purpose:** Engage communities for tailored reentry solutions
 - **Michael Fest Community Meeting:**
 - **Date:** April 23
 - **Time:** 7:00–8:30 PM
 - **Location:** Room 43, Open Beach, 39th Street
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Closing Remarks

Marquinn McDonald (Nominating Committee) and Alexander Perez (Community Engagement)

- Appreciation extended to staff, attendees, and public safety leaders
- Emphasis on collective efforts to uplift and safeguard the community

