

Community Oversight Board

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 22, 2019 – 4:00 PM

Lentz Public Health Center – Third Floor Board Room
2500 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203

First Vice Chair Campbell-Gooch, presiding in the absence of the Chair, called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and announced the presence of a quorum for conducting business. First Vice Chair Campbell-Gooch read the appeal rights to parties pursuant to Metropolitan Code of Laws § 2.68.030.

Board Members in Attendance During the Course of the Meeting: *Jamel Campbell-Gooch (First Vice Chair), Robert Cooper, Phyllis Hildreth, Walter Holloway, Adele Lewis, Danita Marsh, Andres Martinez, Brenda Ross, Matthew Sweeney, and Emmett Turner.*

Others in Attendance: *Alex Dickerson (Metro Legal), Marcus Floyd (Mayor's Office), Anne Havard (Mayor's Office), William Weeden (Community Oversight Board Executive Director), Jill Fitchard (Community Oversight Board Assistant Executive Director), and Members of the Public*

Approval of Minutes

Member Hildreth moved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on April 24, 2019, which motion was seconded by Member Turner and approved by a voice vote of the Board. Member Lewis abstained because she did not attend the April 24 meeting.

Fines & Fees Technical Assistance Grant

Marcus Floyd, Public Safety & Justice Policy Advisor in the Office of the Mayor, and Anne Havard, Senior Advisor for Economic Opportunity in the Office of the Mayor, made a presentation to the Board about the Fines & Fees Technical Assistance Grant being used by Metro to review its structure of fines and fees, particularly related to the criminal justice system. The Board was asked to have one of its members serve on a steering committee for the fines and fees review. Member Hildreth moved that Member Holloway serve as the Board's member of the steering committee, which motion was seconded by Member Cooper and approved by a voice vote of the Board.

Executive Committee Meeting Report

Member Cooper gave a brief report on the Executive Committee meeting held on May 15, 2019.

NYU Workshop on Police-Community Engagement Report

Members Campbell-Gooch and Lewis gave a report on attending the NYU School of Law Policing Project's Workshop on Police-Community Engagement on May 9. Member Ross requested that the attendees provide a written report on the workshop. Member Campbell-Gooch agreed to provide a written report and to provide a copy of material received at the workshop. Attendance at the workshop was funded by a grant from the Policing Project to Metro and did not involve the use of Metro funds.

Executive Director's Report

Director Weeden introduced newly hired COB Assistant Executive Director Jill Fitchard and reported that Paula Person would begin work as COB Executive Assistant in mid-June. Director Weeden said interviews were scheduled for the legal advisor and investigator positions, he expected to interview for the community affairs position within two weeks, and the research analyst positions would be posted soon.

Director Weeden stated that the COB has procured permanent office space downtown in the Washington Square Building, 222 North Second Street. While the permanent space is being prepared, Director Weeden stated the COB would use temporary space in the same building.

Director Weeden provided updates on scheduling training opportunities and on his meeting with Metro Police Chief Steve Anderson.

Committee Reports

Member and By-Laws Committee Chair Sweeney stated that the Committee voted to recommend a new draft of Bylaws for the Board's consideration. Mr. Dickerson reviewed the revisions to the previous draft reviewed by the Board. Member Cooper moved to amend the second sentence of Article 14, Section 2, Paragraph D, to read as follows: "A motion or resolution passes upon the affirmative vote of a majority of Board members present, except where these Bylaws indicate that a unanimous or two-thirds vote of Board members is required." The motion was seconded by Mr. Martinez and approved by voice vote of the Board, with Member Lewis abstaining. Member Lewis moved to adopt the Bylaws as amended, which motion was seconded by Member Ross and approved by voice vote.

Member and Rules & Procedures Committee Chair Sweeney provided a report on the status of the Board Rules and the issue of whether to document the COB's relationship with the Metro Police Department through a Memorandum of Understanding or revisions to the Department's manual. Member Lewis moved to direct Director Weeden and the Committee to proceed with negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department, which motion was seconded by Member Hildreth and approved by voice vote.

Member Hildreth moved to form a community task force to review and comment on the Memorandum of Understanding and Rules prepared by the Rules & Procedures Committee prior to presentation of the Memorandum to the Metro Police Department, to invite the Police Chief or his designee to represent the Department on the task force, and for the task force to begin work after the Committee presents drafts of the Memorandum and Rules to the Board for review and prior approval. Member Lewis seconded the motion, which was approved by voice vote.

Member Cooper moved to merge the Bylaws Committee and the Rules & Procedures Committee into a single committee called the Bylaws & Rules Committee, which motion was seconded by Member Martinez and approved by voice vote.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will take place on July 24, 2019. The location will be publicly noticed.

Adjournment

Upon motion properly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

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