

Community Oversight Board MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 26, 2019 – 4:00 PM

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

Ashlee Davis, Chair, COB called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and announced the presence of a quorum for conducting business. The reading of the appeals statement was completed by Ashlee Davis.

Board Members in Attendance During the Course of the Meeting: *Ashlee Davis, 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), William Weeden (Community Oversight Board Executive Director), Jill Fitchard (Community Oversight Board Assistant Executive Director), Community Oversight Staff and Members of the Public*

Approval of Minutes

Member Robert Cooper requested that a minor change be made to the location of the meeting to the Centennial Room. A motion was given by member Dr. Adele Lewis to approve the minutes with this change, a second was provided by member Brenda Ross. Minutes from the May meeting were approved by a voice vote of the Board.

Fines & Fees Technical Assistance Grant Meeting Update

Member Walter Holloway attended and represented the board and provided the update to everyone. The meeting focused on analyzing monies and how they are spent, along with where monies are being allocated. The conclusion of the meeting was what can be done to lower bonds depending on the charges along with fees. Chair Ashlee Davis, raised the question is there anything we should be aware of or what can the Board do to be engaged, is there anything that needs a vote? Mr. Holloway responded that there is nothing that needs a vote, community members could sit in on the 2nd day of this meeting and give their opinions. The COB will be provided with an update in September of how the process is going. First Vice Chair Jamal Campbell-Gooch addressed that this committee will come into play when the Advisory Report comes out in October. The COB members will be notified of the next meeting being held in September.

Chair Ashlee Davis acknowledged First Vice Chair Jamal Campbell-Gooch for standing in for her at the May meeting, she further welcomed the Community Oversight Staff to the meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting Report

A meeting was not held for the month of June. Chair Ashlee Davis will send an email out to the Executive Committee regarding the next meeting date.

NYU Workshop on Police-Community Engagement Report

Member Dr. Adele Lewis and First Vice Chair Jamal Campbell-Gooch presented that the report will be forthcoming (2nd week in July) and covers networking, perspective and engaging with others who have been through the process. Member Dr. Phyllis Hildreth commented that it would be helpful to indicate what other entities or programs were represented and that resources are made available for the committee members and others to utilize. Per First Vice Chair Jamal Campbell-Gooch the purpose was to create a standard document for all the entities to refer to.

Executive Director's Report

Director William Weeden introduced the six new staff members and their positions. On June 17th, the Community Oversight Board moved into two temporary office spaces in the Washington Square Building. The IT installation has been delayed by a couple of weeks due to IT needing proper addresses, this should be remedied after the July holiday. Currently, we are working without desk phones and printer/faxes in order to work around this issue, the department is using a hotspot or net mobility in both offices. Everyone has been assigned a laptop, a cell phone and they have access to the hotspot to gain internet connectivity. We also have permanent phone numbers for the office and staff along with a complaint line number that will be shared later as the line is not connected. The phone number will be posted on the website once the line is properly connected and ready to be used.

We have a mediation program that should be implemented soon and is being spearheaded by our legal advisor. The goal is to research and find what mediation program fits best with the city of Nashville's needs. Also, we are looking an intern program and hope to have that in affect by the Fall of 2019. We will be partnering with local Universities to have students come in to assist with various projects. Furthermore, we are hoping to connect with community agencies and organizations to have receiving centers for citizens wanting to file police complaints of any kind. In the future staff would be able to go to these receiving centers and work remotely to build relationships. The department website should be up and running within the next couple of weeks, once the content is submitted to Metro IT.

Director William Weeden discussed the presented training document outline for the Citizen's Police Academy. This program runs for 1 day a week for 14 weeks dates need to be selected for the members and staff. Staff members will be training along with Metro police officer recruits, they are looking at a way to combine training hours. We hope to be involved with the FBI Citizens Academy, it has already been offered this past March but hopefully we will be able to participate in March 2020. NACOLE training documentation was provided and classes explained to the board the NACOLE conference will be held in September 2019. Mr. Weeden explained the benefits of staff attending this conference and quoted \$19,300 as the overall total cost for them to attend. Pricing includes, registration, flight and per diem costs, which is in line with the fiscal year budget for training. Mr. Weeden asked that the board approve this expense and provided a breakdown of the travel expenditure by budget line item.

Dr. Rueben Cockrell was introduced as a Management Consultant that offers a program that can assist with improving management skills, how to build a better team and guide us in having the best Community Oversight Organization in the nation.

There was an in-depth conversation among the board members regarding concern over the costs concern of the conference. Andres Martinez wanted to include a board member's attendance at the

NACOLE conference, also there was great concern about the cost of the conference. Member Dr. Phyllis Hildreth supported allowing the COB Director William Weeden to manage the budget cost for the conference. The result concluded First Vice Chair Jamal Campbell-Gooch providing a motion to add a board member to attend the NACOLE conference, a second was provided by Member Andres Martinez with the board unanimously approving this item.

Subcommittee Updates

- a.) Member Andres Martinez provided information of how the by laws and rules were constructed using cities that have posted their rules online. The board now needs to approve the draft to go out to the community. Per Alex Dickerson 2 votes need to be taken, one to approve the draft to go out to the community and another establishing the process of it being released to the community. Discussion was held regarding the complaint timeline as stated in draft. Member Robert Cooper gave a motion to approve, a second was provided by Member Dr. Adele Lewis with the board unanimously approving this item.

- b.) MOU taskforce discussion was held regarding that the community organizations/ members would review the MOU first and then provide feedback. Upon receiving that feedback, the board would then review the MOU and make the appropriate changes. Member Brenda Ross stated that the rules committee should be involved with community engagement and provided a motion to approve, a second was provided by Member Dr. Phyllis Hildreth with the board unanimously approving this item. Member Dr. Phyllis Hildreth further asked that a contemplation be made that this would take 60 days to complete, as people might not be available this time of year to meet the July. Member Robert Cooper read the prior meeting minutes under the Committees Reports section to the board after Member Andres Martinez's request that reads as follows: "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 Dr. Adele Lewis questioned was the motion on the floor that the rules committee will set up the Community Task Force, the board unanimously approved this item.

First Vice Chair Jamal Campbell-Gooch asked for a motion to take a 5-minute break. Before this was given Chair Ashlee Davis stated that the language would be retooled. The COB Exec Board Elections will be discussed in the month of July, in which members can decide on their roles with the board. A second motion for a 5-minute break was provided by Member Dr. Phyllis Hildreth. Upon returning from break the outcome after lengthy discussion is that the MOU will be ready for presentation to the community by August. Member Dr. Phyllis Hildreth recommended that the best draft that the committee comes up with be emailed to the board members and the board members could highlight changes. The highlighted changes can then be discussed at the next meeting to focus on those specific items. Member Andres Martinez inquired about a motion which was on the floor before break, this motion needs to be withdrawn. Alex Dickerson announced that he didn't feel that a motion was on the floor. Mr. Alex Dickerson later apologized and acknowledge that a motion was on the floor to extend the MOU to the community, this motion was withdrawn.

A motion was given that the board staff will go by the draft rules when completing investigations pending the adoption of the formal rules. Member Robert Cooper provided a motion a second was provided by Member Matthew Sweeney with the board unanimously approving this item.

New Business /Announcements

Alex Dickerson announced this would be his last meeting and that he was excited to work with the board and will continue to assist if needed.

Adjournment

Member Dr. Adele Lewis presented a motion to adjourn with Member Brenda Ross providing a second and the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.