**Community Police Commission (CPC)**

**April 19th, 2023, 9:00am In-Person & Via Zoom Conference Call**

1. **Welcome & Land Acknowledgement**
2. **Take Attendance**

**CPC Attendees**: Rev. Patricia Hunter, Rev. Harriett Walden, Joel Merkel, Lynne Wilson, Raven Tyler, Mark Mullens, Erica Newman, Joseph Seia, Le’Jayah Washington, Tascha Johnson, Suzette Dickerson. Mary Ruffin, Jeremy Wood , Alina Santillan (late)

**CPC Absences:** Asha Mohamed, Lars Erickson (excused absence)

**CPC Staff**: Cali Ellis, Felicia Cross, Megan Clark, Mina Barahimi Martin, Mergitu Argo, Jo-Nathan Thomas, Jessica Phares

1. **Review Agenda & Minutes**

**Action**: Motion to approve the 4/19/23 meeting agenda **– no proposals made**

**Moved**: Rev. Hunter

**Seconded:**  Lynne Wilson

**Approved by voice vote.**

**Opposed**: 0

**Abstentions:** 0

**Action:** Motion to approve the minutes from 4/5/23.

**Moved: Yes**

**Seconded: Rev. Hunter**

**Approved by voice vote.**

**Opposed:** 0

**Abstentions**: 0

* + **Action items Review**

1. **Community Police Commission Updates**
   * **Co-Chair Updates** 
     + **Welcome new CPC Commissioners** 
       - Raven Tyler, Lynne Wilson, and Lars Erickson
       - Gave brief background to both commissioners here and will wait to introduce Lars when he is at the next meeting. Lynne and Raven introduced themselves to the commission.
     + **Amicus Filing** 
       - Had a discussion a few weeks ago about DOJ and the transition agreement they’re asking the court to approve for the removal of the consent decree. Isaac Ruiz worked on the amicus brief, and yesterday CPC’s retained council provided a draft of the brief, and this was circulated among commissioners yesterday. The due date for the brief is due a week from today, and wanted to ask if there’s a discussion around questions or concerns around the brief and should do this in executive session to discuss the pending litigation. If there’s not, then that’s fine, but need to agree to make this filing with the court next week. Briefly talked with Gary Smith to ask if they need to go into Exec. Session to talk about the brief, but not completely necessary. Quickly talked about the mechanics of this process to happen right now during the meeting. Discussed that they will resume recording and set up a separate zoom link for those who want to discuss this through an executive session outside of the main session right now. Have council on the line, and the commissioners and co-chairs.
       - Overall approval for the amicus briefing, but some commissioners would like more time to read it in depth. Comment was made about how it’s important to point out that SPD is drafting a use of deception policy, and it’s important to say that anything about eroding community trust is deception. It was pointed out that we were not consulted about it.
       - **Joel –** no other comments, and so wants to have a motion to approve the brief.
         * **It was moved.**
         * **It was seconded**
         * **No objections to submitting to the court the brief in its form with the comments included suggested above.**
     + No other updates at this time.
   * **Executive Director Updates** 
     + The CPC has two more commissioners to the board, and they will be voted on by City Council in May.
     + Briefly talked about the re-engagement event happening next month and is hoping that all commissioners can join on May 17th from 12 pm-4 pm. The event will be catered, and a time to discuss partners and will have a refresher on roles and responsibilities of the commission. This event is not set up for a virtual option, but email Cali with any questions you have about this.
     + Will be welcoming a delegation from Canada who wants to meet those in the CPC about the role of community and police oversight. Mentioned that Seattle is a leader having community oversight in this process, and many cities do not have this process. We are excited to invite this delegation from Canada to show the work that they are doing and get international recognition.
   * **Workgroup Updates/Staff Department Updates** 
     + **Mina –** wants to invite the new commissioners to come to work groups, either one or more, and could set up an ad-hoc work group if any commissioners want it. Additionally, CPC is a participant in the Affected Person’s group set up by Council.She is representing CPC, and if you have any questions, then please reach out to Mina.
     + **Commissioner’s Workgroup Updates** 
       - A suggestion was made to send out information about all the workgroups, and the times that they meet so that new commissioners can be included. They will also talk more about this in May at the in-person event.
       - Recommendation/Request was made to join more than one work group because this is the heart of the work done with commissioners.
       - **Police Practices** 
         * Working on work plan to define scope of work. Looking at past action items and vision to move forward in developing items for the future. Focus on use of force and crowd management, because this is the area under federal oversight.
       - **Behavioral Health** 
         * Don’t have any updates now. Wanted to ask if there are other commissioners who would like to participate to contact her or Mina. Meeting Fridays around 12 pm, but flexible with this time.
       - **Complaint Appeals** 
         * Looking forward to getting involved in policy parameters around eligibility for Affected Persons group. Continuing to meet with OPA because they received a number of community recommendations some time ago, and looking at how they were or were not implemented. Feeling a little limited by CBA because there’s a strict deadline on review process that can only be extended at the initiative of the officer and hoping to address this. Would also like to see OPA more involved in advocated to the Chief and individuals involved in the committee so OPA can advocate for discipline. Talked a little bit more about the CBA process, and how there are some concerns there in terms of discipline for officers. Asked commissioners to join work group if they’re available.
       - **Community Engagement** 
         * No update – not currently meeting. Deferred to Felicia for what are the priorities. Mentioned issues with emails in contacting Felicia, and Felicia said she has not received any emails yet either. Said that there’s not many people on the committee and there hasn’t been much engagement for some time with the committee.
     + **Legislative Update** 
       - Everything is going through budget right now and this is the focus of the legislature. Most of the bills they’re following have gone away. Some of them have been partially absorbed in the budget like Representative in Streets. A lot of interest though in this bill and would like to work with this with CPC partners so there’s more activity and momentum to get the community involved in this bill. Other bills though unfortunately have disappeared, but the work to promote some of these bills will start in June. Everything will wrap up with the leg session next Wednesday. Some conversation happened around the issues involved with collective bargaining and police accountability, and to build support to see what the CPC wants so they can work on this in June.
   * **New Business** 
     + **No new business**
2. **Ordinance Review and Discussion** 
   * Overview of how the commission came to be developed and organized. Want to make changes so that more accountability can be placed and the CPC can do their jobs better. The document shared included a number of proposed changes that the co-chair recommend that the commission supports so that City Council can adopt these changes. Briefly talked about the work involved for the changes made, and the draft document is what they’ve come up with to review the changes made in the summary document.
     + Went over the changes step by step.
     + Overall agreement for most of these changes and agreed that a lot of work went into making these suggestions.
     + Some concerns were brought up especially for shrinking the size of the commission back to 15, the removal process around the executive director, and making an in-person requirement for accessibility reasons.
   * Gave timeline, and said the co-chairs meet with Councilmember Herbold and said that her office gave the timeline of early May when these changes will be included. Wanted to bring this up so there’s time to talk with Council Member Herbold with other suggestions.
   * Said that commissioners need more time to review this information and will have time after May 3rd to talk more about this.
   * To the extent that commissioners may have concerns, please reach out to Joel or Cali to set up a time to have a conversation on what should be different. Would like everyone to include input. This is the first conversation and want all concerns to be addressed.
3. **By-Law Review and Discussion** 
   * The CPC bylaws require that if there are changes, the commission can do this at any time. But the requirement must have one meeting to discuss proposed changes, and the next meeting can vote on the changes. Most suggestions are to clean up the bi-laws because they were last revised around 2021.
     + Concerns were brought up about having the meeting attendance threshold brought down from 3/4s to 2/3s of attendance, coming to meetings in person, filling the 10 hour workload, and changes in rules for the co-chairs.
     + Some comments around liking a hybrid option available permanently, there was a suggestion that 10 hours a month is not enough for commissioner participation, and encouragement around more grassroots engagement with the commission.
     + Several commissioners suggested reviewing the document further before making comments.
     + Suggestion to have current language and proposed change in language side by side
   * Several commissioners talked about setting up some work group meetings to talk about the changes proposed with each other.
4. **Adjourn**