



## **CPOC Commissioners' public meeting minutes 3/7/23**

### **Section 1 – Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm

#### A. Roll Call:

Present: Jahlee Hatchett, Afroza Hossain, Ben Lerner, Hassan Bennett, John Solomon, Elder Melanie Dubose, Maryelis Santiago, Rosuara Thomas, Hakim Peay

Absent: none.

Present by invitation – Jamison Rogers, Laila Khalil

#### B. Approval of February Public Meeting Minutes: motion by Lerner, seconded by Santiago. All in favor, no opposed.

#### C. Community Comment: No community comments were submitted ahead of time, no attendees had comment at this time.

### **Section 2 - Reports:**

#### 1. Executive director report – Anthony Erace

- CPOC received 12 new complaints in February that were forwarded to IAD for investigation, which brings the total number of complaints year to date to 28.
- Two new CPOC staff members have started, Director of Investigations Jamison Rogers and Senior Policy Analyst Laila Khalil. Erace will forward background information on both new staff members to the commissioners at their request. Hatchett noted new staff could also share about their backgrounds at this time.
- Rogers shared his background as police officer, patrol supervisor, and detective in the Chester Police Department. He plans to build a transparent investigations program to help those who have been harmed by police.
- Khalil shared her background as coming from Councilmember Kendra Brooks' office, where she worked on reimagining what expansive public service and public safety can look like. She plans to apply her experience and legal knowledge and skills to create a positive feedback loop between community members and city government.

City administration released a proposed budget last week, which listed CPOC's budget as unchanged remained static with no increases. In response Erace will prepare a document that lists what budget needs exists, and commissioners can review and comment in an executive session prior to the next budget hearing. Commissioners can activate their networks to advocate for CPOC. Commissioners can also attend the next budget hearing. Lerner noted in his

experience of attending City budget hearings, active participation of the board of directors of the Defenders Association was effective, even if they were not called upon to speak.

Thomas asked when commissioners will interview people with complaints against police, because from the last public meeting it seems that complainants want to see commissioners as a group and speak to them. Erace noted staff can facilitate setting up any community meeting commissioners are interested in spearheading, and the two monthly community meetings are set up for this purpose as well. Hatchett noted that CPOC outreach staff do a good job of notifying commissioners of upcoming community events.

2. Executive director search update – Bennett, Hatchett, Lerner, and Dubouse are on this committee. Five individuals are moving on to the next and possibly final phase of the hiring process, interviews will be continuing next week.
3. General counsel search updates – Thomas, Santiago, Hossain, and Solomon are on this committee. Judge Lerner will sit on the committee meeting to discuss interview questions, and they intend to start interviewing by mid-March.

### **Section 3 - Discussion and Announcements:**

No additional discussion, announcements, or comments.

Hatchett adjourned the meeting to an executive session at 6:29 pm