



D.C. Police Reform Commission  
August 26, 2020  
Meeting Minutes

- The meeting began at 6:01 p.m.
- The following Commissioners were present: Christy Lopez (Co-Chair), Robert Bobb (Co-Chair), Patrice Sulton, Samantha Davis, Pastor Delonte Gholston, Naïké Savain, George Lambert, Robert Bobb, Kurt Vorndran, Jeffrey Richardson, Corey Knight, Kent Boese, LaShunda Hill, Elena Bell, Herb Gray, Emily Gunston, Mignon Smith, Tina Frundt, Ron Hampton, and Robert Bennett.
- D.C. Council Chairman Phil Mendelson provided opening remarks to the Commission outlining the Commission's purpose and scope under Act 23-336. The Chairman also said that if the Commission requires more time to issue its recommendations, he will ask the Council to extend the deadline, and will work to protect the Commission's independence.
- Commission Co-Chairs Robert Bobb and Christy Lopez introduced themselves. Commissioners then introduced themselves.
- Blaine Stum provided an overview of the Open Meetings Act, which applies to any Commission meetings where a quorum of Commissioners is going to be present. He noted that this means that the Commission must notice the meeting 48 hours or two business days in advance, and that during this public health emergency, the public body must take steps reasonably calculated to allow the public to view or hear the meeting, record the meeting, and take all votes by roll call. Finally, he noted that the Commission may only close a meeting to the public for one of 14 reasons under the Open Meetings Act, and that to close the meeting a majority of the Commission must vote to close it, the

Chair must make a statement providing reason for the closure, and a copy of the vote and the Chair's statement must be made publicly available after the meeting.

- Mr. Stum gave an overview of draft Commission procedures sent to the Commissioners via e-mail prior to the meeting. The procedures include the conduct of meetings, voting procedures, and the recording of meetings. Commissioner Samantha Davis asked if they should provide comments now or later e-mail. He replied that it would be better to receive comments via e-mail.
  - Mr. Stum presented a summary of Act 23-336. Pastor Delonte noted that it is important to recognize the language being used in the law can re-traumatize people who have experienced violence. Mr. Stum stopped after Subtitle H, which establishes requirements for identification of MPD officers during first amendment assemblies as local law enforcement.
  - Co-Chair Robert Bobb let the Commissioners know that the solicitation for technical assistance has already been issued. A notice for the solicitation is running in the Washington Post, and the solicitation is available on the Council website.
  - Co-Chair Christy Lopez said that her and Co-Chair Robert Bobb came up with five subcommittees:
    1. Police in Schools or Policing Youth
    2. Assessing and Expanding Violence Reduction Efforts
    3. Building Up Non-Police Responses to Social Problems
    4. Reforms to MPD Practices
    5. MPD Accountability and Oversight
- She asked Commissioners to provide their top three choices for subcommittee placement, as well as any comments, etc. via e-mail.
- Co-Chair Robert Bobb suggested that the Commission meet again in two weeks. Pastor Delonte asked if they would be meeting every two weeks, and Mr. Bobb said that after the next meeting they would decide what the cadence for committee meetings moving forward. Mr. Stum said he would send a Doodle Poll to help schedule the next meeting.
  - Co-Chair Christy Lopez said that she has received some suggestions to do educational sessions as a Commission. She mentioned two specific topics: anti-racism training, and a panel on the history of policing. Commissioners discussed what those sessions might entail, and Commissioner Samantha Davis asked who to send suggestions to. Co-Chair Robert Bobb said to send suggestions to Blaine.
  - The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.