

City of Chicago
District Council Meeting Minutes 018
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Public Meeting
Meeting Date: 06/25/2024
Meeting Location: Old Town Triangle Association - 1763 N North Park Ave
Meeting Start Time: 6:10pm (Brad called meeting to order)

Attendance and Quorum:

Chair:	Councilor	Brad Kessler	Present
Community Engagement:	Councilor	Karen Kane	Present
Nominating Committee:	Councilor	Robert Johnson	Present

Quorum: YES

Councilor Kessler called motion to approve the below listed meeting minutes:

24 May 2024 Special meeting

28 May 2024 Regular Public meeting

18 June 2024 Special meeting minutes

Councilor Kane voted YES

Councilor Johnson voted YES

The “Yes” stands and the Jan 23 meeting minutes have properly been approved and accepted.

Public Comments:

1. Ron: The CTA bus stop @ LaSalle and Division is no longer there, the long line of drug use has now dispersed. Thank you to the 018th District Commander for hearing our complaints.

I would like to make a request for more officers to do foot patrol down Division street around my bldg....there are a lot of people smoking crack in the courtyard of my bldg. I stand out and make them uncomfortable by my presence and they leave. I would like a uniformed officer presence

there to make them also leave, I should not have to stand out among drug dealers and users to make them go away.

2. Lauren: Community member from North Ave and Clark, frustrated with shortage of police and all of the crime in the 018th District and nothing being done about criminals and holding them accountable. We need to hold the Mayor, Alderpersons, and criminals accountable for their actions.
3. Dr. Kim Ladion: if we could cut crime down by 50% this year and increased after school programs and added job programs for the unemployed adults doing something productive, as well as a summer of tough love jobs for nonviolent offenders...when you know what to do to correct the issues, just do it. Between the District council, Commander and community members we should all be able to collaborate to decrease the crime and violence that is impacting the 18th District.
4. Mel Jones: Beat officers need to visit businesses along Division street, because they are stealing from the businesses there and then selling the stolen goods on Division.

Councilor Kessler Updates:

- Commander/Alderpersons meeting to discuss traffic patterns
- Private security task force update p4 assisted w/taskforce, identified hotel security to assist during DNC
- Announced Glen Brooks CPD Community Policing will be our guest speaker to discuss the DNC for July Public Meeting
- ALTO org support business as court advocates, assist the business by educating on the process of signing complaints and attending court to get charges against offenders. Also assisted the security and retail theft task force. Create better collaboration to help report retail thefts and get offenders charged.
- Introduced Speaker Ellie Paetacque Montgomery, Executive Dir of Mental Health Advocacy and treatment Response team @ Cook County Sherriff Office

Councilor Johnson Updates:

- Nominating Committee working groups
- Permanent Commission selection /announcement made at midnight, 7th member update
- Retail theft task force update (asking for volunteers from the 18th Districts, 13 community Org to share best practices, what has worked and make recommendations)

Counselor Kane Updates:

- Brief overview of the U of C crime lab statistics in the 18th District, Robberies are up 18%, a 5yr increase, Batteries are up 24%, shootings down 14%.

-advocating for more police officers to be assigned to the 018th District (more foot patrol, bike patrol)

-Shot spotter vote explanation and attended Aldermanic forum about shot spotter

-DC 18 are strong advocates for technology to fight crime, if shot spotter is the best to provide that great, if shot spotter isn't it what technology should be used ?

-update on her role as Court Advocate, 9 volunteers from the community showed up. Encouraged more volunteers to participate

Commander Bair Update:

-1st Homicide of the year on Division- ongoing investigation

-increased foot patrol, asking officer to get out of the cars more and be more visible, Bike unit in 018 for the summer

-trending- gun arrest have increased by 73%

-5 gun arrest in one night near division and state

-manpower will be spread over the major summer events as well as DNC

Guest Speaker:

Ellie Paetacque Montgomery: Very detailed presentation and discussion around Mental Health Response in Policing. Ellie shared the benefits as well as need for increase in manpower (more clinicians) to handle the huge number of mental health calls in Chicago and in the 018th District.

Uptown was loaded with mental health patients and mental health facilities in the early 80's but with not enough resources or wrap around services to handle the volume. At the same time there was a huge open drug dependency and open drug market sales crisis. The police are usually called to these calls for service but are often times not adequately trained and it's unsafe for them to respond. With this new program(Treatment Response Team), the mental health workers that respond are trained health care workers that are also trained in the area of de-escalation, they can handle addiction and mental health issues all Via Zoom to assist the officer 24 hours a day.

Cook County Sherrif Patrick Adams – talked about how the treatment response team has helped him on several occasions and is a very useful tool in addition to his CIT training. Inmates that are suffering from mental health issues are able to benefit from the treatment response team clinicians who respond.

Megan Cherry: Spoke on how the Treatment Response team can also assist with business owners who have issues with the homeless community members who are in crisis and have a mental health breakdown, can call the response team and have them get assistance instead of arrest. There is also NARCAN training for community members as well as business owners. Starbucks in Uptown and the Chicago Architecture Society have both been NARCAN trained to assist with community members with mental illnesses in front of their businesses.

23 July next meeting @ DePaul University @ Lincoln Park Campus room and exact bldg. will be posted closer to meeting date

Counselor Kessler made motion to adjourn, meeting adjourned @ 7:48