City of Chicago
DISTRICT COUNCIL # 014
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: ☒ Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed
MEETING DATE: 8/2/2025
MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: Humboldt Park Library 1605 N Troy
MEETING START TIME: 1:08 am

Attendance & Quorum
OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 out of 3 members present in-person.

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: Christopher Laurent	Present: ☒ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Community Engagement: David Orlikoff	Present: ☒ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Nominating Commitee: Ashley Vargas	Present: ☒ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐

Quorum (2 out of 3 Members): Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Public Comment

Public Comment 1: Concerns about Detective Commander John Foster (Area 5). Serious allegations of misconduct, involvement in a $3.4 million lawsuit over wrongful convictions.
Public Comment 2: 3.4 M dollar lawsuit tied to J. Foster and 69 complaints on file (three sustained), including use of force and other violations; discipline in only two cases. Not sure how this person can become the commander of Area 5. Calls for serious investigation and possible vote of no confidence if needed.
Public Comment 3: Mr. Tucker reported recent vandalism targeting council members and community advocates—including posted images and derogatory accusations—costing potentially thousands of dollars, and called for better use of such resources for community aid.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes are approved by the second regular meeting after they are taken.
Approved minutes are posted online within 10 days after approval.

District Council Member Updates

a. Nominating Committee. Upcoming Vacancies: Three (two youth, one Northside commissioner). Timeline: October: Begin outreach (universities, youth orgs). November: Announce vacancies publicly. December: Applications open, interviews, selection by 22 nominators, final commission picks by Mayor. Selection window: ~3 months (application, interview, and mayoral appointment phases).

b. Area 5 Meeting (July 28). Meeting with Detective Commander Foster and CPD regarding sexual assault investigations and CPD's response. Community-submitted questions largely ignored. Many attendees raised misconduct concerns about Commander Foster. Plan to file a formal G011 request for written answers from CPD. Discussion coalesced around broader trust and leadership issues; many called for formal accountability. District council plans a vote of no confidence (see voting results below).

c. Community Outreach. Scheduled guest speaker (Civilian Office of Police Accountability, COPA) postponed to December 6. Interim update provided: COPA refers Welcoming City Ordinance (WCO) violations to BIA; full case-by-case analysis when needed. Reference to Special Order S06-14-03 for policy on citizenship status incidents.

d. Traffic Stop Policy. Discussion of recent CCPSA resolutions: Consent searches in traffic stops, Limits on non-safety-related stops (registration, seat belts, etc.), Division over ‘ pretextual stops advocacy commissioners unsuccessful in pushing for explicit opposition. Definition provided for " pretextual stops" (stops conducted for ulterior motives without probable cause). Ongoing pressure for inclusion of the issue in future policy and consent decree compliance.

e. Cook County State's Attorney ’ s Office Developments. Felony Review: Elimination in select high-crime/high-black-population areas—allows officers to directly charge felonies without prosecutor vetting. Brady List: Recent removal—eliminates the list of officers legally required to be disclosed as non-credible witnesses (raises concerns for wrongful convictions and increased city liability). Criticism of spokespeople and transparency.

Discussions

Introduction and conversations with Commander Ricky Rivera: Lifelong ties to Humboldt Park and Northern Square; personal experience as migrant and low-income community member. Emphasizes respect, neutrality, accountability, and a community-driven perspective.Military veteran; perspective shaped by varied life experiences within marginalized communities. Open-door policy for the community. Balanced approach—while acknowledging CPD policies, seeks “ happy medium ” and respectful interactions. Ongoing engagement at public events and CAPS meetings.
Questions from DC Vargas on Community Policing. Commander

a. Oath Keeper Officer Oversight: Commander Rivera is awaiting clearance to release further information. Assured that the officer in question is not in a community-facing or influential role.

b. Traffic Stops & Training. Reported active, regular training on bias awareness, procedural justice, documenting all stops via GPS tracking and roll-call reminders. Focus on “ pretextual stops ” : efforts to ensure traffic stop documentation and reduce racial profiling.

c. Domestic Violence Calls & Migrant Communities. Ongoing efforts to improve reporting, with particular focus on underreporting by migrants. Plans to: Present at CAPS meetings,Utilize bilingual liaisons, deploy church communities for outreach, Expand victim services, Provide reporting via multiple communication channels and social media (including Spanish-language content).

d. ICE-CPD Collaboration Concerns. Acknowledgement of confusion and fear among migrant communities regarding ICE and CPD roles. Efforts to clarify CPD ’ s primary focus on public safety, and that involvement with ICE is rare and scrutinized.

e. Community Policing Philosophy. Affirmation that community policing extends beyond social appearances; value is in substantive support for vulnerable groups. Training in “ heartset, skillset, mindset ” continues, with daily roll-call refreshers. Community partnerships are key—encouragement for residents to proactively support local youth and share resources beyond mere complaints.

Votes

- June 21, 2025: Minutes reviewed, minor edits made (notably, spelling corrections), unanimously approved.

- July 2025: Approval delayed due to insufficient time for review and incomplete records. Plan established for pre-meeting circulation of draft minutes and email-based submission of edits to streamline approvals.

- Vote of no-Confidence: Motioned by DC Vargas, Seconded by DC Orlikoff. In Favor: Orlikoff and Vargas. Nay: Abstain: Laurent

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: 9/13/2025

NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): Wicker Park and Bucktown Library

District Council ended the meeting at: 2:36 am