

City of Chicago
District Council # 002
Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Type: Special

Meeting Date: 3/4/2025

Meeting Location & Address: 1332 E 47th St, Chicago IL 60653

Meeting Start Time: 6:19 PM

Attendance & Quorum

OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 out of the 3 members present in -person

District Council Member Name

Chair: Ephraim Lee

Community Engagement: Alexander Perez

Nominating Committee: Marquinn McDonald

Approval of Minutes: N/A

District Council Update: NA

Discussions

1. Housekeeping Items

Previous Meetings:

- January: Great turnout.

- February: Moderate turnout.

Started with housekeeping before agenda items.

2. Meeting Food Fund

- **Objective:**

- Enhance community turnout by providing food at meetings.

- **Options Discussed:**

- Solicit support from other elected officials.
- Outreach to Cam Buckner yielded willingness to support.
- Internal funding:
- Rotate responsibility among councilors monthly.
- Pool contributions (e.g., \$15 per councilor monthly).

- **Proposal:**

- Start with \$15 per counselor monthly to purchase light refreshments.

- **Feedback:**

- Agreed to start with \$15 per month, adjust based on needs.
- Funds to roll over if unused.

- **Action Item:**

- Implement an initial \$15/month contribution from each councilor.

3. Community Engagement and Events

- **Neighborhood Outreach:**

- Plan to walk neighborhoods to engage residents.
- Each councilor targets a specific neighborhood.
- Distribute flyers for upcoming meetings.

- **Event Ideas:**

- Establish tables at local businesses (e.g., LA Fitness).
- Set up in coffee shops like Sip and Savor for direct engagement.
- Organize push-up challenges and distribute district swag at events.

- **Collaboration:**

- Joint events with other districts, e.g., Warrior Day.
- Potential meetings with Aldermen Lamont and Desmond for joint initiatives.

- **Action Items:**

- Each councilor selects a neighborhood for outreach by the end of April.
- Design and distribute new flyers and door hangers.
- Coordinate with local businesses for table setups.

4. Mission Statement Development

- **Current Status:**

- No existing mission statement after initial attempt faced issues.

- **Importance:**

- Establish a clear identity and purpose.
- Consistent representation across all materials and events.

- **Proposal:**

- Draft a mission statement based on the district council ordinance.
- Collaborate to create a unified statement that all councilors can adopt.

- **Implementation:**

- Each councilor contributes ideas using templates.
- Finalize and distribute to other councils for adoption.

- **Action Items:**

- Create a draft mission statement document.
- Collaborate and refine the statement for adoption.

5. Collaboration and Media Strategy

- **Press Engagement:**

- Invite local media (e.g., CBS) to observe and cover district events.
- Utilize press releases through the Director of Communications.

- **Swag and Promotional Materials:**

- Develop and distribute district-branded items (e.g., T-shirts, keychains).
- Coordinate with vendors for affordable merchandise.

- **Action Items:**

- Contact media outlets to cover upcoming events.
- Design and order promotional materials within budget constraints.

6. Handling Officer-Involved Incidents

- **Current Practices:**

- Some councilors actively engage during incidents (e.g., shootings).

- **Proposals:**

- Establish protocols to be looped into COPA for timely responses.
- Increase visibility during critical incidents to support community and law enforcement.

- **Challenges:**

- Ensuring timely communication from police to district council.

- **Action Items:**

- Send emails to Captain Clark to request inclusion in incident loops.
- Develop a response strategy for officer-involved incidents.

7. Roles and Nominating Committee

- **Role Distribution:**

- Discussed the importance of each councilor operating in their strengths.
- Consideration of switching roles based on strengths and past experiences.

- **Nominating Process:**

- The upcoming nominating meeting is scheduled for Saturday.
- Introduction of new councilor Marquinn McDonald into the nominating process.

- **Action Items:**

- Attend the nominating meeting to formally introduce Marquinn.
- Assess the need for role adjustments within the council.

Action Items

- **Meeting Food Fund:**

- Start \$15/month contributions from each councilor for refreshments.

- **Community Outreach:**

- Select neighborhoods for door-to-door engagement by the end of April.
- Design and distribute new promotional materials.

- **Mission Statement:**

- Draft and collaborate on a unified mission statement.

- **Media and Swag:**

- Engage local media for event coverage.
- Order district-branded promotional items.

- **Incident Protocols:**

- Request inclusion in COPA incident notifications.

- **Nominating Committee:**

- Introduce and integrate Marquinn into the council's processes.

Follow-up Points

- **Next Meeting:**

- Schedule discussions on the progress of the food fund and community outreach.

- **Mission Statement Approval:**

- Finalize and distribute the mission statement for adoption.

- **Event Planning:**

- Confirm dates and logistics for upcoming community events.

- **Role Assessment:**

- Review and potentially adjust roles based on councilors' effectiveness and strength

District Council meeting ended: at 7:28 PM