DISTRICT COUNCILS

COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

District Council Meeting Minutes

Date: August 1, 2026
Time: 10:05 AM – 10:58 AM
Location: Jackson Park Fieldhouse, 6401 S. Stony Island Ave.

Attendance

• Kenya Franklin, Chair
• Janice Jones, Community Engagement Representative
• Isaiah Brooks Sr., Community Outreach Coordinator
• Total Attendees: 5

• No CPD representatives were present.

Attendance and Quorum

• The Open Meetings Act requires at least two council members to be physically present to establish a quorum
• Chair Kenya Franklin was present
• Community Engagement Representative Janice Jones was present
• The Nominator position remains vacant
• Quorum was established

Call to Order and Roll Call

• Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM
• Roll call completed

Remote Attendance

• No remote attendance requested

Approval of Agenda

• Agenda reviewed and approved
• New voting items cannot be added once the meeting begins

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

• Minutes from the June 6, 2026 meeting were approved
• Clarification provided regarding discussion items referenced from the previous meeting

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Public Comment

- Christopher Jones raised a broader concern about the district's community organizer and area coordinator operations, saying the system had gotten "way out of hand" and needed to be brought under civic order.
- He argued that the community organizer role is central to public safety planning, not peripheral.
- He said the organizer should:
    - Organize committees.
    - Build connections.
    - Talk with police.
    - Know district plans.
    - Help identify what the community can do to reduce crime and improve safety.
- He stressed the need for metrics and accountability, saying they want to "inspect what you expect."
- The councilwoman said they were supposed to receive a report already, but Danette had left and was no longer there.
- Isaiah Brooks introduced himself as the replacement for Danette.
- Christopher Jones said he would forward his email and the materials he had previously sent.
- The councilwoman said statistics were supposed to have come through the prior week, but had not yet arrived.
- She explained she was locked out of her city email / signature company email and would need to regain access before she could forward the statistics.

3. Post-event violence, teen takeovers, and prior planning

- Christopher Jones used the example of Sam Bennett's neighborhood event in Brockton / Pocket Town to argue that better planning could have prevented violence.
- He described a situation in which girls came in armed with tasers and knives, backed by others from another area, leading to a later shooting.
- He said the neighborhood had tried to stop "mayhem" and that the event became a cautionary example of escalating youth violence and "teen takeover" behavior.
- He repeatedly argued that the organizer, area coordinator, and youth coordinators should have been more proactive in advance of the event.
- He described Faith in Action as a traditional kickoff event before summer — specifically the Friday before Memorial Day — where community leadership should gather to coordinate safety strategies.
- He said Sam was overloaded and should not have been expected to carry the burden alone.
- The councilwoman and Janice pushed back at points, emphasizing that the issue also involved police response time and the limits of 911.
- Isaiah Brooks said that if an event is happening, interrupters should always be invited so they can mediate if something starts to go wrong.
- He said he would find out who handles that in the neighborhood.
- Janice added that there need to be conversations with police to understand what the response protocol is and how to prevent something similar from happening again.
- The councilwoman emphasized that 911 is not reliable enough and that the district needs a better number to call when an incident like that happens.

4. Violence interrupters, peacekeepers, and neighborhood coordination

- The discussion expanded into the role of violence intervention groups in the district.
- Christopher Jones said there are now multiple levels in the violence-prevention ecosystem, including interrupters and peacekeepers.
- Isaiah Brooks said those roles exist for exactly these types of situations and reiterated that they should be contacted for events.

Public Discussion on District Trends and Concerns

- Public Safety
    - Loose chickens roaming in the district.
    - Loose pit bulls / loose dogs roaming the neighborhood.
    - Loud music played on a speaker until around 1:00 AM.
    - Children, including very young children around ages 3–4, being in the street.
    - Dumping in a vacant lot.
- The councilwoman clarified that chickens are allowed only if contained in a coop; they are not supposed to roam freely.

- Council Operations

• One council seat remains vacant
• Appointment process for the third council member remains pending
• Discussion regarding the impact of the vacancy on council operations and representation
• Suggestions to improve communication and coordination among council members

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Violence Prevention and Community Organizations

• Discussion regarding violence interruption organizations and community safety efforts
• Concerns expressed regarding consistency and effectiveness of existing programs
• Emphasis placed on community-led safety strategies and neighborhood engagement

Community Engagement Report

• Janice Jones shared updates and resources from prior community engagement activities
• Continued emphasis on connecting residents with available community resources and support services

Reports from Council Members

• Council members provided updates and participated in discussion on community safety concerns raised by attendees

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Update from the Commission

• No formal commission report provided

Report from the Police District

• No CPD representatives were present
• No district report was provided

Final Announcements and Adjournment

• Next meeting scheduled for September 5, 2026
• Time: 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

- Location: Jackson Park Fieldhouse, 6401 S. Stony Island Ave.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:58 AM