

CITY OF CHICAGO
DISTRICT COUNCIL 004
COMMUNITY COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TYPE: X Regular ☐ Special ☐ Closed

MEETING DATE: March 26, 2026

MEETING LOCATION & ADDRESS: Trumbull Park 2400 East 105th St.

MEETING START TIME: 6:08 pm

Attendance & Quorum

The OMA Meeting cannot take place without 2 out of 3 members present in person.

District Council Member Name	Attendance
Chair: Lovie Bernard	Present: x ☐ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Nominator: Gloria Jenkins	Present: x ☐ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐
Community Engagement: Brenda Waters	Present: x ☐ Remote: ☐ Absent: ☐

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

Public Comment

Resident 1 Discussed shooting in the Trumbull Park Homes during all times of day and night.

Several residents spoke up persistent Gun Violence in the Area TR Park and surrounding the housing complexes.

Frequency and Timing: Gunfire reported daily at multiple times – specifically cited at 2:30 PM, 9 PM, 2 AM, 4 AM, and 7 AM.

Recent Incidents: Near-daily shootings have been ongoing for the past few days.

Example given: A shooting near school dismissal threatened children’s safety; a school lockdown was initiated by a resident contacting the school directly during live gunfire.

Residents described being eyewitnesses, with incidents occurring literally on their doorsteps or within view of their homes.

Approval of Minutes Lovie Bernard made a motion to approve February 28, 2026 minutes. All agreed and minutes were approved unanimously.

Discussions

Conflict is primarily internal to the community (not arising from outside gangs).

Residents and staff can identify known troublemakers by face, if not always by name.

Lack of adequate, consistent police presence following emergency calls.

Frustration expressed about slow or absent police response, with an example of police only "circling" and not directly intervening even when suspects' descriptions are provided.

Recent heavy police activity described: Fugitive Team Operation: Two days prior, a major police presence with helicopters and tactical teams led to an arrest at the complex, but awareness of such activities is limited due to poor communication between police and the community.

Security and Accountability Issues

Current private security present in the complex is viewed as ineffective ("worth two dead flies"—rarely visible during violence).

Upcoming Change: Management reportedly planning to hire a new security team, but skepticism was expressed about whether this would improve the situation.

Lack of cooperation or communication between housing office management, building security, and residents.

Police Accountability: Residents emphasized the need for police and city officials to be more responsive and visible.

Commitment made by meeting organizers to share these concerns with the fourth district police commander.

Impact on Children and Families

Children described as unsupervised, including very young kids (not just teens). Facilities exist (gym, workout spaces) but are underutilized or "a handful of kids" seen using them, possibly due to weather or insufficient programming.

Calls for more constructive activities and programs for youth beyond just basketball.

Safe Passage for students only implemented reactively after a violent assault on a teacher, despite two years of advocacy for such support. Reports that some kids, as young as 8th graders, are becoming serious troublemakers—engaging in violence or theft, with entire families sometimes involved in disruptive activities.

Housing Management and Social Dynamics

Chronic overcrowding reported (several families with up to seven or ten members in small apartments, often violating housing rules).

Property management (Ms. Williams and others) accused of inaction despite awareness of problem tenants/families.

Residents accuse office and some staff (including maintenance workers) of being too friendly with known troublemakers or their families.

Housing rules around pet ownership are more strictly enforced than those regarding occupancy or criminal behavior.

Social issues like lack of parental supervision, families harboring problematic guests, and multiple generations contributing to ongoing instability and violence.

Youth Redirection and Opportunity

Not all youth involved in trouble—some express desire for change, want employment, or are open to mentorship and positive adult involvement.

Barriers identified: Many youth afraid to leave the immediate neighborhood due to street politics or fear of being mistaken for gang members elsewhere.

Lack of accessible resources and consistent programs for skill-building or job placement.

Examples shared of attempts to expose youth to different experiences:

Field trips (Navy Pier, Sky Zone, Urban Air) organized by residents.

Underlying challenge: Even well-intentioned efforts by some adults are undermined by broader issues of trust, ongoing peer influence, and absence of systemic support.

Updates

Brenda Waters - Purpose: Initial plans focused less on formal meetings and more on a community day to provide resources, engagement, and positive influence, especially for youth. Activities Planned: Blood pressure screenings by nurses, information/resource tables, mental health resources, and participation

from groups like the peacekeepers. Parental and Youth Involvement: Attempts to involve both parents and youth, with special emphasis on reaching out to kids featured in concerning videos and utilizing food as a draw for community participation. Resource Needs: Appeals for additional support and contributions from attendees and their networks

Gloria Jenkin - Vacancies and Appointments: Discussion on filling commission vacancies with community-nominated individuals. Emphasis on selecting nominees with relevant public safety or policy experience and community ties. Democratic Process: Selection and voting process among committee members to ensure representative governance

Lovie Bernard - Work on bringing the police commander or other relevant officials to future meetings. Proceed with plans for a community engagement event at Trumbull Park, focusing on resource provision. Circulate information about the Friday CPD briefings for direct communication. Work on restoring lost youth programs, like the Boys and Girls Club. Encourage broader, more active community involvement, especially targeting inactive adults.

Announcement of Next District Council Meeting

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 25, 2026

NEXT MEETING LOCATION (if available): Trumbull Park

District Council ended the meeting at: 7:06 pm