

July 13, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:35 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Steven M. DeVougas, Chair
Kathryn A. Hein
Ann Wilson
Marisabel Cabrera
Fred Crouther
Angela McKenzie
Nelson Soler

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Rohlfing, Chief, Milwaukee Fire Department; and James Harpole, Assistant Chief, representing the Milwaukee Police Department.

The Chair reconvened the Board in Regular Session, having previously met in Executive Session from 4:38 p.m. to 5:25 p.m. pursuant to Section 19.85 (1) (c), (d), and (g) Wis. Stats. to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over whom the Board has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: promotion of nominees to Police Sergeant and Detective; to consider strategy for crime detection or prevention, and to confer with a representative of the City Attorney's Office who will render oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Board with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved, to wit: review of MPD SOP 660 – Vehicle Pursuits and SOP 130 – Foreign Nationals.

The meeting was staffed by Executive Director MaryNell Regan. The Chair opened the meeting with Public Comment. The Chair announced the Public Comment section of the meeting will be split into two parts. The first Public Comment section will be limited to general public comment and will take place at the beginning of the meeting. A second Public Comment, limited to commentary concerning the amendment to SOP 130 – Foreign Nationals will be held at the end of the meeting. Translation services have been made available.

The Director announced that the adoption of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2017, had been removed from the Consent Agenda.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Larry Murphy presented to the Board a complaint he filed with the Fire and Police Commission detailing the circumstances of his treatment by members of the Milwaukee Police Department. He alleged that officers used excessive and unnecessary force in detaining him before he was to testify as a witness.

Shirley Murphy recounted her perspective of the incident her son, Larry Murphy, had just described. She echoed his sentiments of unnecessary and excessive force being used. She stated the officers were impolite and attacked him without reason. When she tried to ask them where the officers were taking her son, a sheriff gave her a citation for disorderly conduct which has damaged her public reputation. She stated the sheriff had lied in stating she had used profanity which led to the citation.

Von Mayes, representing All We Got, stated there needed to be more accountability within the Milwaukee Police Department. Mr. Mayes stated that there are concerns in the community over the MPD pursuit policy. He stated that high-speed pursuits are not catching more people but are endangering civilians. He asked what the status is with alternative methods to pursuit, such as the Star Chase program. He called for more transparency within the MPD.

Cynthia Greenwood stated she is concerned about Terry Williams. She asked why it took the police so long to arrive while Mr. Williams laid bleeding on the ground after being shot in a moving car. His girlfriend was also injured.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

The Director presented the following items for approval on the consent agenda. (Detailed information concerning the items can be found under the appropriate regular meeting agenda heading in the minutes.)

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes – June 1, 2017
- B. Request for Voluntary Demotion of Detective
- C. Request for Data Communications Specialist Examination

There being no objections, all of the items were approved for adoption.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) Andrea Knickerbocker, Human Resources Manager of the Department of Employee Relations (DER), returned to the Board requests to reclassify the positions of Fire Equipment Mechanic, Fire Equipment Repairs Supervisor, and Fire Equipment Repairer II. DER recommended a career ladder be adopted for the position of Fire Equipment Mechanic with new titles of Fire Mechanic I, II and III in Pay Ranges 7EN and 7HN. This would change the rates of pay for the positions and the way employees would progress through those pay ranges. This would be benchmarked against the different certifications the individuals hold in addition to their performance. The other positions (one Fire Equipment Repairs Supervisor and two Fire Equipment Repairer II's) are more traditional reclassifications. For the Repairer II positions, DER will ask the Finance and Personnel Committee and Common Council to have them be effective at pay period 1 so that pay progression will be handled the same way throughout the year. DER recommended the Supervisor position be reclassified to Fire Fleet and Equipment Manager in Pay Range 1EX and for the two Repairers, one to transition to Fire Equipment Machinist in Pay Range 7HN and the other to Fire Building and Equipment Maintenance Specialist in Pay Range 7HN. Commissioner Crouther moved to approve these reclassifications and Commissioner Hein seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Knickerbocker then returned to the Board requests to reclassify the Fire Department Business Section administrative support positions of Program Assistant II, Accounting Assistant III and Personnel Payroll Assistant II, and a request to classify a new position of Program Assistant III. DER recommended that the existing positions of Program Assistant II and Accounting Assistant III, as well as the new position of Program Assistant III, all have the same title of Program Assistant III because these individuals have oversight of their own particular functional area but will serve as back-up for each other, thus warranting they all have the same title. DER also recommended that the Personnel Payroll Assistant II be reclassified to Personnel Payroll Assistant III due to the position's level of responsibility. Commissioner Soler moved to approve these reclassifications and Commissioner Crouther seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

b) The Director returned to the Board a request to approve MPD SOP 114 – Domestic Violence. Commissioner Soler moved to approve the SOP and Commissioner Cabrera seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

c) The Director returned to the Board requests to amend MPD SOP 660 – Vehicle Pursuits. The Chair noted that the Board had a number of fact-finding hearings and interactions, received letters from Alderman Johnson, the Milwaukee Police Association, and Chief Flynn, and reviewed the IACP Vehicular Pursuit Model Policy. Based on the record and fact-finding, the Chair suggested the Board issue a directive to Chief Flynn (see attachment) to submit an amended Standard Operating Procedure to the

Board for approval on or before July 27, 2017, with a report on non-pursuit information by September 7, 2017. Commissioner McKenzie moved to issue the directive and Commissioner Soler seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Director presented a proposed modification to Fire and Police Commission Rule I, Section 1(f) regarding the Emergency Communications and Policy Director definition. The Chair directed that the proposal be laid over until the next meeting for adoption.

b) The Director presented a proposed modification to Fire and Police Commission FPC Rule IV, Section 3 regarding changes to Standard Operating Procedures. The Chair directed that the proposal be laid over until the next meeting for adoption.

5. EXAMINATIONS:

a) Marti Cargile, Human Resources Representative in DER, presented for adoption an eligible list for the exempt position of Emergency Communications Manager in the Police Department, consisting of seven names. The Emergency Communications Manager manages the day to day and strategic direction of the MPD Technical Communications Division. The application period ran for 7 weeks during which 26 applications were received. Nine candidates met the minimum qualifications and seven passed the selection process. The candidates with the top five scores will be referred to the MPD for hiring interviews. Commissioner Soler moved approval of the list, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

b) Ms. Cargile presented for adoption an eligible list for the position of Fire Equipment Repairer II in the Fire Department, consisting of three names. The Fire Equipment Repairer II designs, fabricates, alters, and repairs specialty fabric items uniquely inherent to the fire service. The application period ran for six weeks during which five applications were received. Three candidates met the minimum qualifications, and all three are on the list of referrals to the Milwaukee Fire Department for hiring interviews. Commissioner Soler moved approval of the list, seconded by Commissioner Cabrera. The motion carried unanimously.

c) Ms. Cargile, on behalf of Human Resources Analyst – Sr. Emily Keeley, presented for adoption an eligible list for the position of Custodial Worker II in the Police Department, consisting of 87 names. The position is responsible for the upkeep of MPD buildings and grounds. Minimum requirements include a valid driver's license. The position was posted for 3 weeks, and 195 applications were received and accepted. Approximately half of those applicants attended the written examination, and 87 passed. Commissioner Soler moved approval of the list, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

d) Ms. Cargile presented for approval an examination announcement bulletin for the position of Information Services Manager-MPD in the Police Department. The person filling this position will supervise the MPD's network, client servers, databases, and equipment. This position requires a related bachelor's degree and four years of supervisory, technical, and/or project management experience in a large enterprise IT support environment. The application period will run from July 14th through August 4th. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner Crouther. The motion carried unanimously.

e) Ms. Cargile presented for approval an examination announcement bulletin for the position of Media Producer in the Police Department. The Media Producer provides internal and external MPD outreach through a variety of technology-based platforms including websites, social media, live presentations, photographs, and video recordings. The minimum requirements include a related bachelor's degree and

three years of full-time professional video production experience. The application period will run from July 14th through August 4th. Commissioner Crouther moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

f) Nola Nelson, Human Resources Analyst – Sr. in the DER, presented for approval an examination announcement bulletin for the new civilian position within the Police Department of Forensic Ballistics Specialist. The position will be responsible for analyzing, correlating, and disseminating crime gun intelligence derived from the forensic examination of firearms and cartridge casings. This is a second shift position. The minimum requirements include an associate's degree in forensic science, criminal justice, physics, or a closely related field. The application period will run from July 14th through August 4th. Commissioner Crouther moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

g) Ms. Cargile presented for approval an examination announcement bulletin for the position of Office Assistant III in the Police Department. This is a transfer/promotional opportunity for City employees. The Office Assistant III assists MPD employees operate efficiently by performing important clerical work. The minimum requirements for the position include current status as an employee of the City of Milwaukee and at least four years of office support experience, coordinating and working on a variety of complex clerical assignments. MPD Human Resources is offering two information sessions at 32nd and State Street on August 8th and 10th from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. for current City employees to learn more about office careers with the MPD. The application period will run from July 14th through August 11th. Commissioner Soler moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

h) Ms. Cargile presented for approval an examination announcement bulletin for the position of Office Assistant II in the Police Department. Under supervision, an Office Assistant II types letters, reports, records, and other documents, and performs a variety of clerical duties. Minimum requirements include at least two years of experience in an office performing administrative support duties closely related to essential functions. Due to the large number of openings, DER and MPD will be hosting a career fair on Wednesday, July 26, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Milwaukee Safety Academy. The application period will run from July 14th through August 4th. Commissioner Wilson asked for copies of flyers for the career fair to distribute. Commissioner Crouther moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner McKinley. The motion carried unanimously.

6. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following appointments, as presented by Chief Rohlfing, were approved by the Board:

TO FIREFIGHTER, from Fire Cadet, contingent upon successful completion of a medical exam, drug screen, Candidate Physical Ability Test, updated background investigation, and updated psychological exam, effective July 31, 2017.

OLIVER R. SCHNEIDER, DAKOTA B. BUNGER, DANIEL J. STOEKL, AVERY B. KORNITZ, MATTHEW D. GRADE, JEREMIAH A. SANTIAGO, JONATHAN J. WELLENS, TANNER J. AMROZEWICZ, JUSTIN D. MILLS, BRETT W. BILLINGS, JASON A. LIEMPECK, JR., JONAH K. RODRIGUEZ, IMANI K. SPREWER, RYAN M. CORREA, KANDACE J. FONS, JAKE T. MEACH, CHRISTOPHER M. HALL, JR., CARMELLO C. AGUILAR, BRANDON P. MATHE, and TOMAS J. GOSSE.

Fire Cadet Santiago was recognized for a statement on behalf of the Firefighter class.

7. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The Director presented a letter dated July 7, 2017, from Chief Flynn, wherein he nominates Captain of Police Leslie M. Thiele to the exempt position of Inspector of Police in the Police Department, to be

effective July 30, 2017. Pursuant to Rules of the Board, final action on this nomination was laid over to permit the nominee to be interviewed.

b) The following promotions, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO POLICE SERGEANT, from eligible list established May 5, 2016, contingent upon successful completion of a drug screening, effective July 30, 2017:

#36 - BRADLEY M. TREMBLAY and #37 - LYNDON EVANS.

Note: The promotion of #36 is on a waiver basis.

TO DETECTIVE, from eligible list established December 17, 2015, contingent upon successful completion of a drug screening, effective July 30, 2017:

#47 - ROMAN A. MARTINEZ.

TO MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN I, from Building Maintenance Mechanic II, an underfill for Maintenance Technician II, effective July 30, 2017:

TODD G. WEHAUSEN.

c) The Director presented two letters dated July 7, 2017, from Chief Flynn, wherein he nominates seven individuals and two contingents to the exempt position of Community Service Officer in the Police Department, to be effective August 14, 2017. Pursuant to Rules of the Board, final action on these nominations was laid over to permit the nominee to be interviewed.

d) The following request was previously approved by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Item C:

A letter dated July 5, 2017, from Chief Flynn, wherein he presents a request from Detective Dennis G. Ryan, Jr. for voluntary demotion to his former rank of Police Officer, to be effective July 16, 2017.

e) The following communication was previously received by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Item D:

A letter dated June 21, 2017, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that a recruitment be conducted for the exempt position of Data Communications Specialist. The request will be referred to the Department of Employee Relations for implementation.

f) The Director presented a request to adopt Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 130 – Foreign Nationals. Assistant Chief Harpole thanked the Board on behalf of Chief Flynn for the opportunity to present the SOP and submitted to the Board an amendment to the SOP that was adopted by Chief Flynn on July 6, 2017. In presenting the amended SOP, Assistant Chief Harpole felt it necessary to explain the history of the SOP and the proposed changes in light of the large public crowd in attendance at the meeting to speak on the SOP. Assistant Chief Harpole began by emphasizing that the Milwaukee Police Department does not enforce federal immigration law, it did not under the previous policy, and it will not under this proposed policy. He noted that, having spent a number of weeks in the community having conversations regarding the topic, a number of misunderstandings have arisen locally since President Donald Trump's immigration policies were made known. He noted that there is a substantial difference between the responsibilities of the MPD and the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office. There have been rumors that the MPD was doing sweeps in the night, kicking in doors, and taking children out of their beds, and none of these are true. Under the proposed amended change, he emphasized that, operationally, nothing changes in the MPD, and these are mere technical modifications.

Assistant Chief Harpole explained that in 2012, the County Board passed a resolution that placed Milwaukee County as a potential sanctuary county. The county received a letter from the Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding grants, alerting applying counties that they would need to be in compliance with 8 U.S.C. §1373 by June 30, 2017. In September of 2016, Milwaukee County and the cities of Milwaukee and West Allis were awarded a grant of \$937,000. The MPD intended to use its portion of those funds to purchase squad cars. A special condition of the grant requires recipients to submit a legal opinion certifying the municipality is in compliance with §1373. (The section reads, "Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal, State, or local law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, or receiving from, the Immigration and Naturalization Service information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual"). Failure to comply with this section could result in a withholding of the funds, suspension or termination of the grant, ineligibility for future grant opportunities, and possible civil or criminal penalties. In addition to this grant, the MPD also applied for a \$1.9 million COPS grant to hire additional officers. The same special condition applied. The MPD conducted a review of its policy, along with the City Attorney, and the review showed that the SOP at the time was not in compliance with §1373. MPD then amended the policy to include the language from §1373. Under the old policy, officers were prohibited from contacting the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) or the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) by the language, "... police members *shall not* inform federal immigration officials of the whereabouts or behavior of any suspected illegal immigrant or foreign visitor" except in six listed circumstances (when an individual is (1) arrested for a felony; (2) arrested for a misdemeanor involving the possession or use of a dangerous weapon; (3) arrested for a terrorism-related offense or is otherwise reasonably suspected of involvement in terrorism and/or subversive activities; (4) arrested for any offense involving the entry or fraudulent assimilation of undocumented foreigners into the country or is reasonably suspected of participating in an organized venture to bring or fraudulently assimilate undocumented foreigners into the country; (5) is a previously deported felon; or (6) is reasonably suspected in participating in criminal street gang activity). This prohibition was in conflict with §1373, and the six circumstances have not changed since 2008 and are not changed in the proposed policy.

Assistant Chief Harpole explained the policy Chief Flynn put into place on July 6, 2017, changed multiple things within the policy. First, multiple references to "citizen" in the old policy were changed to "individual." Second, a portion of the old policy that prohibited police officers from questioning an individual about their immigration status, unless one of the six circumstances applied, was changed to state "in no way will officers use any inquiry into a person's immigration status as a means to dissuade or avoid the following: interviewing witnesses, filing an incident report, conducting a criminal investigation, and receiving a citizen's complaint." This change was controversial and so, in the amended policy presented to the Board today, the Chief is reverting the language back to its original language in that section. Third, municipal ID cards would now also be an acceptable form of identification. Assistant Chief Harpole took this moment to note that MPD does not have access to the data a person submits when they apply for a municipal ID card. Fourth, while the language of §1373 will still appear in the SOP, Chief Flynn changed the language "police members shall inform federal immigration officials [in the listed six circumstances]" to "police members shall, using discretion consistent with federal law and [the six listed circumstances], inform federal immigration officials of the whereabouts or behaviors of any suspected illegal immigrants or foreign visitor when [one of the listed 6 circumstances apply]." Assistant Chief Harpole noted that the officers have not been given any additional authority but, to be in compliance with federal law, the MPD will no longer prohibit its members from contacting federal immigration officials when one of the 6 circumstances apply. Fifth, the sixth listed circumstance requiring a reasonable suspicion of involvement in "criminal street gang activity" has been changed to "violent criminal street gang activity." Seventh, a level of supervisory oversight has been added to the policy in section G of the amended policy. An officer who is going to contact ICE must first contact their shift commander and provide their shift commander with the pertinent information.

The Chair recognized Commissioner Cabrera. Commissioner Cabrera first issued a public apology to the Chair for her misunderstanding of the role the Chair played in the revisions of SOP 130. It is clear now to

her that no one in the Fire and Police Commission approved or had any say in the revisions that took effect on July 6, 2017. The Chair accepted her apology. Commissioner Cabrera then began her commentary, stating that a primary cause of the issue with the revision was the process by which it was done. The revision was done with a lack of transparency and unnecessarily circumvented the FPC's usual practice of modifying SOPs. This Board was created to provide the community the opportunity and authority to oversee the police and fire departments and is made up of a diverse cross-section of the community. It is thus contradictory to the Chief's notion of community policing to circumvent this Board. Commissioner Cabrera reminded the Chief that he too is subject to discipline by this Board. To prevent this from happening again, the Board will be revising the rule used to justify the SOP revision. Further, the presented amended SOP is still problematic in its language. The "shall, using discretion," language is confusing as these are two different types of instruction. The Board does not want the federal immigration authorities commandeering the MPD to enforce federal immigration laws. The MPD must foster trust with all members of the community, and this issue could lead to individuals being afraid to call the police and report crimes for fear of their immigration status being questioned. Commissioner Cabrera stated the updated SOP is a step in the right direction, but there are remaining issues and she will be suggesting the Board continues to review the SOP to correct those issues in the future. Assistant Chief Harpole responded that the MPD will not be asking for persons' immigration status, that the concerns Commissioner Cabrera raised are addressed by this amended SOP, and that Chief Flynn deserves credit for hearing the concerns of the community and amending the SOP. Commissioner McKenzie noted that the Board will not be giving the Chief credit for this.

Commissioner Wilson noted that, although the SOP only has an impact on a portion of the community, all of the community is concerned about it. This is not just a Hispanic concern, this is a Milwaukee concern. Assistant Chief Harpole responded that Milwaukee is a city of immigrants and that he would be happy to meet with any group, representing any racial community, to open any dialog.

Commissioner Soler noted that a year ago, when he joined the Commission, the first issue brought to the Board was the lack of transparency within the MPD and now the same issue is before them again. The relationship between the MPD and the community continues to deteriorate. He applauded that finally this transparency is materializing although it is coming from the community's pushing, not from the MPD's will. Commissioner Soler echoed Commissioner McKenzie's comment that the Board does not owe the Chief any credit because this whole controversy would not have happened if the modification of the SOP had been done publicly. When things happen behind closed doors, trust is lost. Commissioner Soler expressed he is tired of the lack of respect for the FPC, noting that information the Board requests is sometimes not received or given a mere hour before the meeting. Recently, the FPC was called "inept" by the Common Council which Commissioner Soler does not appreciate either. He stated he did not join this Board to be a rubber stamper, because he has a relationship with the Mayor, or because he has a relationship with Chief Flynn. He joined this Board because he wants to serve. He will not remain silent and tolerate unfounded insults, lack of transparency, lack of cooperation, or big egos. This is a human issue, not merely a Hispanic issue.

Commissioner Hein stated that this amended SOP is a good move but there would have been no need for this second amendment if the MPD had listened to, or at least informed, the community. She does not believe Chief Flynn could have thought that any amendment to an SOP concerning immigration would not result in a community reaction. She echoed Commissioner Soler's complaints about the lack of cooperation and the MPD's slow response time to the Board's requests.

The Chair noted that all members of the Board agree this issue could have been handled better before inviting Alderman Perez to address the Commission. Alderman Perez noted that the new change to the SOP is the result of all of the community's efforts. He thanked Voces de la Frontera, LULAC, the Mayor's office, and the FPC for being a constructive force in this process. He noted that the community was always willing to engage with the MPD and thanked the Board for its part.

Alderman Hamilton's Chief of Staff echoed the statements of Alderman Perez on behalf of Alderman Hamilton.

Darryl Morin, representing LULAC, expressed the organization's desire for a well-resourced police department and strong civilian oversight. LULAC had serious concerns when it learned of the changes to the SOP. Mr. Morin stated that the July 6th changes to the SOP had nothing to do with §1373, and it is LULAC of Wisconsin's belief that the original SOP was already in compliance with §1373. LULAC had consulted its own attorneys as well as multiple other attorneys and all of them stated as much. Mr. Morin stated that we all want to live in a community where we feel safe, and this amendment is an important step; but people must feel safe contacting emergency services. He thanked Alderman Perez, Voces de la Frontera, and the FPC for bringing the second amendment to the SOP.

Christine Neumann-Ortiz, Executive Director of Voces de la Frontera, thanked the FPC for serving as a check and balance in our city. She noted that the earlier amended SOP would have institutionalized racial profiling and infringed on the rights of migrant families. She noted that this issue drew nationwide interest, and she feels the city is breathing a sigh of relief that the City of Milwaukee is standing with immigrants, refugees, and people of color to secure their safety.

Commissioner Cabrera moved to accept the amendment to SOP 130 proposed by the Milwaukee Police Department, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion passed unanimously.

After receiving the second round of Public Comments, Commissioner Cabrera noted that the newly amended version is still in need of additional consideration but moved to approve this amended SOP 130, seconded by Commissioner Soler. The motion passed unanimously.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Pastor Joseph Ellwanger, representing MICAHA, called for the practice of "radical hospitality" toward immigrants, refugees, and anyone who feels ostracized in the community. We are being asked, as a city, to have courage on this immigration issue. If we are making our decision based on grants, this is not courage. He echoed Commissioner Wilson's comment that this is an issue for all of Milwaukee.

Jarrett English, American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin, stated the ACLU came to the meeting to urge MPD to revert the SOP to its original language, and it is glad that this was accomplished and that the MPD will not be bringing ICE to people's doors.

Tammy L. Rivera, Southside Organizing Committee, left a written statement which was read aloud by the Chair. SOC is concerned about the lack of citizen involvement in the process of the language change in the SOP. The Milwaukee Police Department, particularly District 2, had made incredible strides recently in building trust with the Latino community and this has negatively impacted this trust. They hope to rebuild collaboratively.

Reverend Jennifer Nordstrom, First Unitarian Society, stated she is glad the new SOP has been amended but is upset the July 6th changes were even considered. She noted that the earlier SOP was immoral in its effect of threatening children with tearing their families apart and increasing hate crimes. She stated that even when given the opportunity for a sizable grant, the moral choice is one of love for everyone.

Attorney Arthur Heitzer, Milwaukee Turners, stated that the changes announced do not go far enough. The language "reasonable suspicion of involvement in subversive activities" and the legal mandate of "shall" in "shall, using discretion" are both problematic areas of the new SOP that need to be addressed. He noted that the SOP would call on police officers to contemplate the intricacies of federal

law in deciding whether to contact federal immigration agencies. Further, the term "subversive" is very open to interpretation and can easily lead to abuse of authority in its enforcement.

James Carnell, Gender Queer Milwaukee, noted that the reporting of rape and sexual assault would decrease under the July 6th changes to the SOP due to the additional fear of deportation resulting from filing a report. Strong action needs to be taken to protect vulnerable populations, and Milwaukee should become a sanctuary city.

Fifteen other members of the community, including ten members of Voces de la Frontera, also addressed the Commission. They told the Board personal stories of how the changed SOP impacted them and the people around them. Consistent themes among the comments were that these immigration enforcement changes cause significant trauma and fear in the children of immigrant families that their parents will be taken away. Additionally, fear of racial profiling has increased. The commenters urged the MPD to rebuild the community's trust in the police and emphasized the real and immediate fear of calling the police to report crimes because the would-be caller is afraid their immigration status will be questioned and they will be deported. Finally, there was a consistent theme of gratitude for the newly adopted amendment to the SOP but many feared even the new amended SOP does not go far enough to protect immigrants and refugees.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Crouther moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Soler. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 8:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



MaryNell Regan
Executive Director

MNR:RC:rk

Att.