

LOWER MERION POLICE AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee:

Christine Dixon-Anderson,
President

Reverend Albert G. Davis, Jr.

Reverend Jeannette Gilbert

Linda Jackson

Reverend Carolyn Cavaness

Rose Johnson

Thomas McDaniel

Maryam Phillips

Robin Thomas

Marie T. Thornton

Township Representatives:

Commissioner Steven
Lindner

Supt. Michael J. McGrath

Captain Frank Thomas

Captain Eugene Pasternak

Lower Merion Township Board of Commissioners

Daniel S. Bernheim, Esq., President

75 E. Lancaster Avenue
Ardmore, PA 19003

November 1, 2017

To the Board of Commissioners,

The Police and Community Relations committee met on Monday, October 23, 2017 to continue discussion of the recommendations made by Major Ben Brooks regarding the committee's future. The committee does not agree with the recommendation to become a township-wide committee to address all police and community relations issues under the direction of the Lower Merion Board of Commissioners. Instead the committee prefers to maintain its focus as a channel of communication between the minority community and the Lower Merion Police Department. In that capacity, some suggestions from the consultant's report that are appropriate to our mission may be adopted to strengthen the relationship.

The committee intends to become a private committee of citizens, and to change its name to more clearly reflect its purpose as a liaison or bridge between people of color and the Lower Merion Police Department. Following our re-organization, we look forward to working with the township to formalize this new collaborative association. In order to maintain a productive and mutually beneficial relationship we propose enacting a Memorandum of Understanding that clearly defines the expectations of our committee and the township toward preserving the same level of regard, respect and partnership between our committee and the Lower Merion Police Department.

We welcome future discussions on this new direction for our committee.

Sincerely,

Christine Dixon-Anderson
President
610-896-5178