

Police Reform: Community Engagement Working Group
September 17, 2020, 7:00PM
Meeting Minutes

Co-Chairs: Commissioner Chris Shaw & Shannon Isom

Facilitator: Janet Mueller, Dayton Mediation Center

On Thursday, September 17, 2020, at 7:00PM, the Police Reform: Community Engagement Working Group met in regular session, remotely through electronic means, in the Commission Chambers of City Hall.

Shannon Isom makes opening remarks and addresses housekeeping reminders:

- 1) Continue to use the chat function during Zoom meetings
- 2) Utilize the Google Drive to get the agenda and to upload any documents that want to be shared with the group
- 3) Focus on sticking to the agenda as planned

Youssef Elzein informs the working group of the webinar “Mindful Policing” on Friday, September 18, 2020. (See chat transcript for more detail).

G. Buchannan informs group of 115 treatment facility ribbon cutting ceremony. (See chat)

7:10 Jordan Lewis uses polls for people to vote on the three objectives (four, but three main).

Question #1: Does the group Approve of Objective #1?

Group has concerns about the meaning of “policy-making structure”.

How does the city/DPD create police policy?

Is the City Commission not the policy making structure for the city?

Jordan Lewis explains that Objective 1 is focused on evaluating policy making methods, regarding community engagement in that process.

Shelley Dickstein concurs and urges the group to focus on the community engagement aspect.

Proposed changes to language of Objective 1:

Youssef Elzein, change “policy-making structure” to Standard Operating procedures.
(See chat transcript for further discussion/explanation)

Scott Bellavia, keep same language but add “community engagement” in the language to clarify and focus.

Question #2 Does the group approve of Objective #2?

Passes unanimously

Question #3 Does the group approve of Objective #3?

Passes unanimously

7:40- Meeting moves onto recommendations

Janet Mueller explains how brainstorming items fit within the broad framework of the three objectives (see chart on Google Drive)

Verletta Jackson suggests cross-over/involvement between the National Leadership Institute and DPD officers.

Marcie Sherman suggests:

- 1) getting rid of, not citing people for minor infractions (jay walking, biking issues, etc...)
- 2) mental health experts responding to mental health based calls

Comm. Shaw explains how the groups recommendations work and would be potentially implemented.

- 1) Panel makes community engagement based policy recommendations.
- 2) Panel members vote.
- 3) Commissioner Shaw takes approved recommendations and proposes them to the five member City commission, who then vote on whether or not to implement.
- 4) If the city commission does not approve a recommendation, it is sent back to the panel.

Conversation moves to police reverse ride-alongs

Marcie Sherman discusses how suspicion based on appearance is a problem in Dayton
Emphasizes the need for officers to recognize people for more than their "suspicious" looks.

Scott Silver- reverse ride-alongs cannot be a "one and done" thing, need more regularity, possibly directed by community leaders?

End minutes