

Community Outreach Subcommittee of the Northampton Policing Review Commission

MEETING AGENDA

Monday January 25, 2021
7-8:30pm

To join the remote meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/93881275824?pwd=b21NbUQ5OFBXWVpSSTFnOHFTREISdz09>

Meeting ID: 938 8127 5824 **Passcode:** 271320

Or by telephone, call: +1 929 436 2866

1. Call to Order
 1. Announcement of Zoom Recording
 2. Roll Call
 3. Approval of meeting minutes
2. Workshop and Finalization of Outreach Document
3. Possible strategies to deploy the outreach document
4. New Business
5. Adjourn

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido at 7:05pm

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ZOOM RECORDING

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido made an announcement that this meeting is being recorded for the public record and would be available on Northampton Open Media, as well as, the City of Northampton website.

ROLL CALL:

Javier Luengo-Garrido Present
Daniel Cannity Present
Carol Owen Present
Kris Banks Present

The Approval of the meeting minutes from December 11, 2020 was postponed until the next meeting.

2. Possible strategies to deploy the outreach document

The commissioners discussed the upcoming timeline the co-chairs presented to the commission.

Commissioner Carol Owen said she connected with the Center for Women and Community. She said she received a call back from a counselor who suggested making explicit use of social media in order to assist the outreach effort.

Commissioner Javier Lueno-Garrido suggested posting the document everywhere commissioners can.

Commissioner Dan Cannity said getting the initial document out and letting people know the commission exists and why the commission exists might generate a willingness to share information. He said the Mark of Nathan sent out email on the commission's behalf to share the word. He suggested getting the commission's presence out there through flyering.

Commissioner Kris Banks suggested the commission could make use of radio stations and newspapers in Northampton so that participants could call a google phone number if people are willing to call hotline style.

Commissioner Javier Lueno-Garrido said the commission would need to ask for money from the city in order to pay a radio station.

Commissioner Dan Cannity said he's not sure the Mayor would agree, but the commission can ask. He said he might start getting responses from people who can also make zoom meetings and may not from the most marginalized populations the commission trying to reach.

Commissioner Carol Owen suggested facebook as another way to connect with people.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido said it's hard to tell. He said in his experience, undocumented folks are into facebook because they can connect with family members. In relation to people who are houseless, he said he doesn't know. He said the commission needs to connect with service providers and activists as a priority and said he would like to get the document out to them as soon as possible.

3. Workshop and Finalization of Outreach Document

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido said he's interested in knowing how the police get involved in responding to houseless people "trespassing" for instance, and whether the police are called or if they are responding on their own.

Commissioner Carol Owen said she's troubled by any recommendation the commission offers to include state agencies that are going to exist no matter what the commission does, because the mandate for DCF is beyond the scope of what the commission. She said, to include any state agencies mutes the commission's purpose. She said the commission can reference local crisis response and social service agencies that either do business regularly with police on emergency calls. She said this needs to be clear in the document.

Commissioner Dan Cannity read the first question: "Can you describe a recent experience interacting with the Northampton Police Department or another crisis response, social service, or support organization in Northampton. This includes but is not limited to: What brought about your interaction, what you felt and experienced and the impact on your life." He said this question is specifically prompting discussion, may want a google form that people can explain further.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido said he's concerned about having this question worded like it is, because it's possible no one has cared to ask participants that question. He said he doesn't think anyone has really been reached out to and this might be the first time. He said this big question also doesn't take into account peoples' trauma.

Commissioner Carol Owen agreed with Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido.

The commissioners reworked the wording of the question.

The commissioners finalized the first question: What brought about your interaction? What did you feel and experience at that time? What was the impact on your life?

The commissioners discussed the final question, "What would make you feel safe in Northampton"

Commissioner Dan Cannity said people know what they need and it's important to ask people what they need.

Commissioner Carol Owen said it's a great last question. She said it's good community organizing and community development and the question makes the person an expert of their own life.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido asked for public input on the document.

Community member Lu Vincent said she is a part of the Deerfield Inclusion Group which is working toward more public safety in their town, as well as working toward reallocating funding. She said she is happy to witness this work and that it seems the outreach is heartfelt and directed to the right people.

3. Possible strategies to deploy the outreach document

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido asked Commissioner Dan whether he's able to send an email to the Mayor and city council president asking about funding for radio and paper ads.

Commissioner Dan Cannity said the city has a Facebook the commission can make use of that could hold a facebook post. He said if the committee is interested in looking into posting on social media, they should talk about the form structure of the survey to advertise, especially if the commission opens submissions because the city uses google and doesnt have another file repository system. He said in order to attach a file to a google form, one has to have a google account. He said he and Noa reached out to Frank (City IT) a couple of times but haven't heard back.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido mentioned that it becomes public record and people ask for those they would have to go into Commissioner Dan's full email. He said it would be good to have audio and video separate from Dan's email. He wondered about having a separate google account for testimonies.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido asked whether the document is ready to send to the commission and to advocates.

Commissioner Dan Cannity said if a survey will be included, it should be linked in the document.

The commissioners reformatted the outreach document.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido said the committee will have to think about written testimonies. He said he pushes for the written testimonies to be read during the public hearing.

Commissioner Dan Cannity said if the committee is bringing this public comment into that space, it's important to respect the fact that there will be a minute limit for those comments. He wondered what to do in cases where the questions don't lean toward brevity.

Commissioner Carol Owen wondered whether Dan felt concerned about equity issues or processing the data later on.

Commissioner Dan Cannity said in the immediate, it feels important to figure out how the committee will ensure someone's detailed account which might take longer than 3 minutes, can still be a part of the record, but not allot more time to people who respond via the form.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido said this can be talked about at the next meeting. He also said he's unsure whether those testimonies will be thoughtfully read.

The commissioners discussed the next meeting agenda.

4. New Business

6. Adjourn

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:56pm. Commissioner Carol Owen seconded the motion. The motion to approve the meeting was passed unanimously.

