

Safety & Equity Task Force  
Meeting minutes 10/7/2021 (edited)

Task Force: Clark Adams, Ben Cassavaugh, Margae Diamond, April Dunham, Gail Harbour, Marsh Hudson-Knapp, Lynn Mazza, Jim Vires, Sarabeth Ward, Lauren Wilcox  
In attendance: Stu Hurd, Brian Corr, Dan Monks, CAT TV  
Tech Support: Jeannie Jenkins, Jeanne Connor, Bruce Lee-Clark  
Notetaker: Lynn Mazza

Introductions:

- ∞ Why did we move to Bennington?
- ∞ What would we like to see come out of the Task Force?

Orientation:

- ∞ Recommendations report due by Jan 30, 2022
- ∞ Brian from NACOLE recommends we focus on purpose and timeline first
- ∞ Discussion of quorum: 5 or more members makes a quorum, subgroups less than 5 can meet, but cannot make decisions. Their work is reported back to the whole group on open meeting and whole group decides

Taskforce Organization

- ∞ Jim moved to nominate Margae and April be co-chairs, Ben seconded
- ∞ Marsh moved to nominate Lynn as co-chair, Clark seconded
- ∞ Clark moved to nominate Ben, Jim seconded
- ∞ Ben declined saying he prefers not to have the officer in leadership
- ∞ Lynn declines saying she's rather be note-taker
- ∞ Lynn moved to close nominations, Clark seconded, all voted unanimously "yes"
- ∞ Lynn moves to elect Margae and April to be co-chairs, Lauren seconds, all voted unanimously "Yes"
- ∞ Margae moved to nominate Lynn as note-taker, Lauren seconded, all voted unanimously "Yes"

- ∞ Clark suggested we click on hand raise function in Zoom to be more clear about who is voting, but not all members have that function available
- ∞ According to open meeting law, minutes must be typed and filed within 5 business days and available for review even if not yet approved. Minutes will be approved or edited as needed in next open meeting. Reach out to Stu for clarification in open meeting rules and filing requirements

### Work Session:

#### Discussed meeting times and locations

- ∞ NACOLE and firehouse are available on Thursdays
- ∞ Agreed meeting would be held 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays from 4:30-6:30 either at firehouse or on Zoom
- ∞ We have to warn the public that meetings are happening. We can do a blanket notice for entire timeframe, or post warnings as the meeting come.
- ∞ Meeting schedule: all meetings 4:30-6:30 in firehouse unless on Zoom 10/21 zoom, 11/4 in person, 11/18 in person, 12/2 zoom, 12/16 in person

#### Discussions:

- ∞ Gail: Breaking down the charge we were given into topic area for subgroups to work on
- ∞ Lauren: Need to get more information about what conversations are already happening around collaboration between BPD and local social service organizations, like UCS
- ∞ Lynn: Suggested that Ordinance already written might be a good jumping off point
- ∞ Brian warns Ordinance must include whole community
- ∞ Discussion on trainings needed
- ∞ Decided to start be focusing on name, purpose and responsibilities
- ∞ Will review NACOLE slides of common models for oversight
- ∞ Look at other examples of Purpose Statements
- ∞ Ordinance will be sent out for people's review and opinions; Ordinance sent to and received by Stu via email attachment during meeting

- ∞ Discussion of format of meetings. Zoom hybrid is logistically very difficult, so each meeting should be all in-person or all Zoom with Selectboard work group members holding the physical space so meeting is accessible for those with no Zoom access
- ∞ Trainings: should we be reaching out to community groups to see if they will provide trainings for free?
- ∞ Committee can indicate to Stu what trainings they would like and Stu can reach out to make those arrangements; NACOLE will offer trainings as well
- ∞ Need to identify trainings needed by Task Force, by eventual Committee once it's formed, and by BPD
- ∞ Subcommittee formed to look at different models of purpose statements: Ben, Clark, Marsh, Sarabeth. Marsh will send out Doodle poll to pick best time for in-person meeting
- ∞ Open Meeting law reminder: do not hit "reply all" in emails, do not send emails out to all; but we can send emails out to subcommittees under 4 people or if we want the whole group to have something, send through Stu so he can post appropriately as well as send to Task Force.

7:35 Gail made motion to adjourn, Lynn Seconded, all voted unanimously "Yes"