

Safety & Equity Task Force  
Meeting minutes 12/16/2021 (final)

Task Force: Clark Adams, Ben Cassavaugh, Margae Diamond, April Dunham, Gail Harbour, Marsh Hudson-Knapp, Lynn Mazza, Sarabeth Ward,  
In attendance: Stu Hurd, Jonah Spivak, CAT TV, 1 observer  
Notetaker: Lynn Mazza

## **1. Introductions**

## **2. Recap of last meeting:**

- Last meeting, we re-read the charge from the Select Board, moving towards final drafts
- Marsh moved to accept last meeting's minutes, Jim seconded, all voted unanimously.

## **3. Purpose subcommittee:**

- Discussion of wording around "external influence" in terms of having a Board free from influence from BPD or Select Board
- How to separate complaints from compliments in wording around what's to be investigated
- Discussion of the wording around "well-being" of police officers
- Discussion around recruitment wording
- Ben makes motions to accept changes, Gail seconds, vote is unanimous

## **5. Composition subcommittee:**

- Discuss inclusion wording around "communicates effectively" to acknowledge that there are some barriers to communication that can be overcome through interpreters, translators, reasonable accommodations and other supports
- Discussed expectations for meeting attendance and how missing meeting could lead to removal from the Board
- Additions to and wording around "seeking a diversity" to be on Select Board. Concerns about tokenism. Concerns about

missing protected classes, concerns about painting the Select Board into a corner by being too specific

- Discussion of number of members
- Term length might be too short when compared the then amount of training time required
- Will get Brian's input about the stipulation that Task Force members should/ should not be on the Oversight Board
- Questions about ride-along requirement... too much? Police would like more time. Also added observation of dispatch operations
- Questions around funding... Select Board would have to put that into the budget, then it would be up for a vote. Or there is the possibility of grants
- Lynn moves to accept, Ben seconds, vote is unanimous

#### **6. Review of next steps:**

- Push Scope and complaint process to next meeting
- Scope/Powers & Duties = draft will go out
- Jan 6<sup>th</sup> in person, Brian will be here
- Ask Brian to report out on issues related to Scope and Complaint process

#### **7. Public comment: none**

Next meeting: Jan, 2022 will in person at the firehouse

April made motion to adjourn, Ben seconded, all voted unanimously "Yes"