

GENERAL MEETING

02/23/2021

5:00PM-7:00PM VIA ZOOM

Facilitator: Carolyn Peabody

Note Taker: Julia Fetter

Attendees:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Carolyn Peabody2. Julia Fetter3. Jack Slattery4. Bob Knuts5. Scott Russell6. Margaret Cowden7. Stephen Kiely8. Liz Gillooly9. Paul Pallas	<ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Rev. Natalie Wimberly11. Alison Byers12. Brian Mealy13. Anne Smith14. Jeremy Schwartz15. Sonia Spar16. Laura Held
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Excused:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Brian Hughes2. Jack Martilotta3. Valeria Shelby
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Guests:

<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Steven DeVito
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MINUTES

WELCOME

- The Steering Committee was supposed to meet with police but they had to reschedule so the meeting will be rescheduled to review the recommendations this week before Friday
- Minutes were accepted by all members

BUSINESS ISSUES

- The plan is to submit the report in its entirety to the Town Board on Friday afternoon. The Steering Committee will schedule a meeting with the Town Board to present the recommendations
- Carolyn expressed her gratitude for all of the hard work that's been done by everyone these past few months

DRAFT REPORT

- Margaret shared that the format of the report was done very well in terms of presenting the recommendations, Paul agreed that it was well thought out and accessible
- Paul mentioned that there were some typo's throughout the document. All typo's should be sent to Julia to make those corrections.
- Scott shared that he doesn't see the necessity for the CPPB Recommendation, and feels that there are multiple different ways to ensure the implementation of the policies. He shared that he agrees with the idea of surveys but feels that other already established community organizations can handle that.
 - Liz responded saying that she sees it as more of an opportunity for the Town Board to build trust with the Community. She also shared that multiple other municipalities also have a similar, some more invasive than our proposal, structure resulting from EO 203 as well
 - Margaret believes that community feedback on policies is a very positive thing, rather than negative. She also feels that renaming the group to "Southold Town Community-Police Partnership" would be effective.
 - Stephen shared that he sees the CPPB as an extension of SJRRTF which does not have an established Sunset Provision
 - Jack expressed that "Committee" is the more appropriate term, as a "Board" insinuates authority
 - Carolyn argued that NFUAC's initial "Call to Action" was a call to address the racism that's imbedded in institutional policies, and the CPPBs job would ensure the follow-up of these policies as well as build community trust in those marginalized communities
 - Sonia sees the CPPB as a safeguard for the community to uphold the partnership and dialogue between the community, police and Town.
 - Rev. Wimberly believes that the CPPB will create a greater level of accountability which will increase public trust. She believes this is important because her individual interviews with people of color showed a significant amount of distrust.

- Alison agrees with the comments made, and thinks that while there are semantics to be figured out, the overall goal is to enhance the trust not only from the community, but also within the police department itself.
- Anne agrees with the comments of the TF members, in particular Rev. Wimberly as she feels it's very beneficial to build community relationships and that we should at least give it a try.
- Brian Mealy feels that taxpaying, law-abiding citizens should not feel fearful and this would help to reduce those fears
- Multiple members expressed the concern that we are spending too much time on this one recommendation and the group should move forward with other issues
- Jack Slattery expressed a concern surrounding the "Complaints" section of the report, as he disagrees with the section surrounding pro bono lawyers being listed on the Town website. He feels that it should be removed from the recommendations

VOTING

- Stephen motioned to vote on the current report subject to any changes by the Police Department
 - Laura seconded the motion
- 12 yes
- 0 no
- 0 abstentions