

Community Safety Task Force Agenda

Date:

August 10, 2023

Time: 7:00 p.m.

108 Bim Street

Welcome & Attendance

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02p.

Attendance

Members - Fedders, Chowdhury, Barrett and Blaisdell.

Council liaison – Council member Slade

Staff – Taylor and Jones-McNair

Approval of the July 3 and July 17, 2023 - Meeting Minutes and Listening Session

Blaisdell motioned to approve the minutes of July 3rd with the following correction – “ Blaisdell motioned to adjourn and Chowdhury seconded”, Fedders seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Blaisdell motioned to approve minutes from listening session, Chowdhury seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Approve timeline/work plan

Fedders motioned to approve timeline/work plan and Chowdhury seconded, the vote was unanimously approved. See attached.

Finalize Listening session 2 (agenda/attendance/questions/logistics)

CSTF debriefed first listening session. Stories were powerful and the need for more community-based programs surfaced. Officers should live in the community in which they serve and get to know the neighborhoods. When events are scheduled for the community by Police, times should be convenient to community. Community wants accountability, police to have community-based training, be responsive and be in community. Community would like policing on their terms, instead the Police on their terms. Many feel it is impossible to expect or see reform under current structure. There is over policing and under policing at the same time. How can police serve the public differently? This conversation must include the police force. How can we move forward when racism is embedded? Some people are not comfortable in speaking for fear of retaliation. In many instances, there is not trust, a way to effectively communicate and residents are frustrated. We must find strategies beyond policing. Policy makers need to hear what is happening and the perspective is not skewed. Who do they represent – staff or community? Perception of safety includes everything – bike lanes, housing, police alternatives, etc.

CSTF want to invite community organizations and people involved in alternative policing. Change the date from August 28th to September 11th. The session be held at Bim Street. Jones-McNair will reach out to AJ Williams to see if he can share information about the Heart Program and Durham Beyond Policing. Hayes will contact Devin C and community organizers, Fedders – Caitlin F. Who else? Meet on August 28th to finalize.

Discuss Black August Community Safety Conversation

CSTF reviewed draft from planning meetings and IFC will take the lead. Will discuss further at next planning meeting.

Confirm next meeting date and agenda

August 28th at 7p.

Adjourn – Chair

Chair motioned to adjourn at 8:25p, Blaisdell seconded, and he vote was unanimous.