

Northampton Policing Review Commission
Alternatives to Policing Subcommittee
MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2021
7:30-9pm
Remote Meeting

Join the Remote Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/92803309655?pwd=Qkc5L2dwY1RVczk4OU1mMGJCMmZMQT09>

Meeting ID: 928 0330 9655
Passcode: 335362

Or by telephone, call: +1 929 436 2866

1. 7:30 Public comment
2. Acceptance of minutes
3. 8PM Domestic Violence Responses
 Invited Speakers: Pending (Carol)
4. Restorative Justice Discussion
5. Preparation for meeting with Chief Kasper
6. Recommendations from the Policing Commission chairs for preparations of the Final report
7. New Business
8. Adjourn

1.MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Booker Bush at 7:32 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ZOOM RECORDING

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

Roll Call

Booker Bush, Co-Chair Present

Javier Luengo-Garrido, Co-Chair Present

Alex Jarrett Present

Carol Owen Present

The commissioners discuss the questions they have for Chief Jody Kasper.

Commissioner Booker Bush said the committee will be speaking with the chief of police to gather information in order to try to understand how things are done now. And to see what kind of pushback the committee might get on particular issues so that it can proactively be ready for that and proactively make recommendations that address pushback.

Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido said he has been a little frustrated in the last two or three full commission meetings. He said the committee has come to the point where it is more or less making recommendations toward a new department and he would like to continue this work. He said he feels like people are not reading the material that the commission is getting. He said for four months the commission keeps hearing people in our commission stating that training should be done, and that things can be better with training. He said he keeps seeing the advocates sending articles and peer led articles about this, but people on the commission keep up with the same narrative.

Commissioner Carol Owen said she thinks a lot of exposure to the kinds of power dynamics. She said she has spoken with other members of the commission, and other white members in particular about the issue of unrecognized privilege that she's seen within the commission. She said there is an unconsciousness among folks who have not had a variety of experiences outside of their own comfort area where they're part of the dominant culture. She said there are good intentions but an unawareness of the urgency.

Commissioner Alex Jarrett said he has thought about, when is the time for him to speak up and say something and not leave it to, to you or others to, but part of that, has been a lot of confusion about what the commission is talking about and when, because there has been such free form conversations at times. He said it's a little unclear when the commission is talking about the process that it will be undertaking, versus the details of what the commission will be recommending.

Commissioner Booker Bush said although he is a black man, he shares a lot of the privilege with a lot of white people and that he can sort of see that going on within this process. He said he's glad that the commission has lots of activists helping the commission making things better, he's tired of seeing white faces telling him how to think, especially when they say demands. He said this is a difficult wrenching process.

7. Adjourn

Commissioner Booker Bush moved to adjourn. Commissioner Javier Luengo-Garrido seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 9:00pm.