

Northampton Policing Review Commission
Policies and Services Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes

Monday March 15, 2021

4:45pm-6pm

Remote Meeting

Join the Remote Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/98028216822?pwd=T1RyQ2FLaFp2NGFRReFRVcWY5ME1aUT09>

Meeting ID: 980 2821 6822 **Passcode:** 212679

Or by telephone, call: +1 929 436 2866 US

1. Call to Order by meeting chair, Nick Fleisher
 - a. Announcement of Zoom Recording
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Approval of Minutes
2. 15 minutes open to public comment recognizing that subcommittee work is completed.
3. Closing comments for our subcommittee
4. New Business

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Nick Fleisher at 7:45 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Nick Fleisher present

David Hoose present

Elizabeth Barajas-Roman Not Present

Nnamdi Pole Arrived at 4:49pm Cynthia Suopis present

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ZOOM RECORDING

Commissioner Nick Fleisher made an announcement that this meeting was being recorded

for the public record. The recording will be available on Northampton Open Media, as well as, the City of Northampton website.

2. 15 minutes open to public comment recognizing that subcommittee work is completed.

There was no public comment.

3. Closing comments for our subcommittee

Commissioner Nick Fleisher shared his screen and showed the final report document.

The commissioners workshop the final report document from the subcommittee.

Commissioner Nnamdi Pole noted there was an objection to calling the Northampton Police Department progressive. He said he would like to emphasize here that when he offered to revise this piece, that he wanted to provide better support for his claim that the Northampton Police Department was progressive. He said he is noting strong evidence of one way in which the Northampton police Department has behaved in an exemplary fashion, With regard to its being the first in the state to publish its data online and make it available, and to do that in response specifically the Obama administration's request for police departments to be more transparent.

Commissioner David Hoose said there were many suggestions that some people of color, lack trust and confidence in their safety around any armed police. He noted the commission heard many complaints about harm from Northampton police experienced by people of color and and people with mental health challenges. He said the only concern he expressed was giving the label progressive to the entire department. He said he is comfortable with using the term “progressive” to talk about the NPD leadership. He said as far as police chiefs go, Joey Casper is about as progressive as they come and that he does agree with Nnamdi about the website and the efforts that have been made to provide written material.

The commissioners workshop the report document language.

Commissioner Nnamdi Pole offered to send his subcommittee additional thoughts to the committee via email through Noa.

8. Adjourn

Commissioner David Hoose moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nnamdi Pole seconded at 5:45pm. The motion adjourn is passed unanimously.