

Roll call: All are present.

Discussion of 11/15/2021 minutes. No minutes for approval. Tara will complete minutes for that meeting and submit for approval..

Motion made to add an item to the agenda. Motion made to add election of Chair of the Reform committee. Arrick seconded. Opened for discussion. Question from Arrick on the assignment of task groups for the larger commission and structure of the commission is not informative and not effective as currently set-up. Tara discussed what she was going to recommend at the next commission meeting. We are not seeing the results that we were setting out for. Discussion of the structure of committees and commissions to be more successful.

Motion made by Arrick for Eric Stephens to remain Chair, Tara 2nd. Motion passed.

CCRB-discussion. Recommendation. What is the level of the recommendation that we are providing to them. Clarity from the City Council on how detailed they want the recommendation. Roles, goals, increased transparency. What is the city wanting from us with these recommendations? Chief even stated that he was in agreement with the CCRB but did not have the full volume of information. The City Council was not prepared for the discussion of these recommendations. Discussion of the request. The Committee will discuss it with the broader commission at the meeting and will discuss what the response will be to the City Council's questions.

*Agenda Item for Commission meeting

Use of Mental Health Professionals: Are we going to move forward with the recommendation for the city? Discussion: Look into other areas to support police in the community to ensure that training and education is adequate in order to reduce the risk of negative interactions with someone experiencing a mental health crisis. Are police open to assistance with calls involving citizens experiencing a mental health crisis. Arrick is not ready to move forward with the recommendation regarding the use of mental health professionals as an alternative response or in addition to the response with the police. Arrick would like to look at the police department's policies as they relate to mental health response and training. Create a document for use for questions for Chief Lightner. Committee would like to find out what is important to the citizens in this area and what is important to the responding officers. Are calls tracked in any way to gather information on types of calls responded to by police? Tara will reach out to Chief Lightner and request information on current training required for police officers. Arrick will reach out to NAMI regarding any training they may have available or resources.

New Business

2022 Initiatives:

Tara states that her focus areas would be to see increased training and continued education hours that relate to mental health care and social issues like Domestic Violence. Tara would like to see partnerships with social service organizations.

Arrick would like to continue the work with the Mental Health reform areas to prevent escalation and to reduce unnecessary hospitalizations for those experiencing mental health illnesses.

Additionally, he would like to continue the work for the CCRB recommendation.

Eric would like to include community engagement events with the police department and minorities. He would also like to focus on community engagement events targeted at increased positive interactions with the youth in the community.

After discussion the reform committee decided that 2022 focus areas would encompass:

#1: Focus on use of mental health professionals and/or increasing training and continuing education as it relates to community members experiencing crisis.

#2: Community Engagement events-work with Outreach and Education committees to plan and implement 2 engagement events, one with a focus on building stronger community relationships between minority communities and a second event with a focus on increasing positive interactions with youth. Considering an event to take place in the schools with resource officers and community engagement liaison from the HHPD.

#3: Continue the work for the CCRB and ensure its implementation.

Miscellaneous: Arrick will take over minutes starting at the March 2022 meeting.

Next Meeting: March 28th @ 7pm @ Police Department conference room.