

Connecticut General Assembly

Police Transparency & Accountability Task Force

Daryl McGraw, Co-Chairperson



c/o Judiciary Committee, Room 2500
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Ct 06106

PUBLIC AWARENESS SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Online- Zoom

Broadcast on CTN

11 a.m.

Attendees: Rich Colangelo (Chief State's Attorney), Daryl McGraw (Chair), Rev. Steven Cousin (Bethel AME Church), Dep Chief Vargas (UConn PD), Tamara Lanier (NAACP), Steven Hernandez (CWSEO)

Others: Ken Barone (CCSU), Deb Blanchard (Judiciary Committee), Andrew Clark (CCSU), Richard Frieder (Everyday Democracy)

I. Welcome

a. Chair McGraw convened the meeting at 11:06am. Members introduced themselves.

II. Public listening sessions planning

a. August 19/20 New Haven event

i. Chair McGraw - Are members still ok w/moving forward w/August 19 date? Rev. Cousin would like to push back the date. Ken Barone agreed. Mr. Hernandez – coming out of storm, thinking about going back to school – agrees that pushing back in person sessions. Chair McGraw – how do we structure best to allow for listening? Ms. Lanier – agrees w/postponing physical gathering and moving forward w/virtual events. Believes CJ reform and police accountability is still on the front burner and getting to be adversarial. Was just on an event that was organized in a week and had over 1000 viewers. Believes there still is an urgency to do something. Andrew Clark made members aware of current work to develop website, as well as surveys. Should have a mockup of both w/in a week. Ken gave an update of a meeting w/Deb Blanchard about how we can host virtual events. Atty Colangelo – agrees that in person should be pushed off for now. Rev. Cousin – when to host in person? Is it spring? Mr. Hernandez – similar to voting during Covid, wants to allow as many different venues for submitting testimony to the Task Force. Richard Frieder – whenever the first session is held, clear expectations of plan should be transparent. What is going to be done with it? Will action items be derived from testimony? If plan is to use listening sessions as a step towards dialogues, it would be important to note. Ms. Lanier – clarification as to when virtual forum will be held? There is a

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format that we can mirror – Judiciary Committee and CTRP3 listening sessions. Ken Barone suggested setting up virtual sessions on initial 22 priorities – feedback and what is missing? Rev. Cousin would like to ensure we aren't limiting input – that individuals can share personal experiences, etc. Mr. Hernandez, are we focusing on public information as well? Andrew – we can draft a script for first virtual session. Thursdays Sept (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th) 10-noon and 6-8pm. Look to add venues to allow for virtual attendance if technology is not available to individuals (ex. Bethel Church is possible). Add to script. Closed Captioned. Translations

- b. Other in person events
- c. Virtual sessions
- d. Structured Dialogues

III. Update: Task Force website

- a. *Andrew Clark indicated a mockup of the website should be available to share w/members by the end of this week, with the goal of it being up and operational a few weeks before the first virtual event.*

IV. Other items

- a. *None expressed*

V. Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 17, 11am.

- a. *Agreed Tuesday August 18, 11am.*

VI. Adjournment

- a. *Chair McGraw adjourned the meeting 12:08pm*