



CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

11/5/2015

Public Safety Committee

November 5, 2015

Minutes

Committee Members: Councilors Sara Giannoni (SG) (chair); David Hartnett (DH)

Additional City Staff: Richard Haesler (RH), City Attorney's Office; Bruce Bovat (BBo), Burlington Police Department; Bonnie Beck (BBE), Burlington Police Department; Paul Glynn (PG), Burlington Police Department

4:35 p.m. - Call to Order

No actions to be taken. Public forum/discussion only.

1. Agenda – Motion by DH. Seconded by SG. Motion passes. Agenda adopted.
2. Minutes—Motion by DH to accept 9/16 minutes. SC seconds. Motion passes.
3. Public Forum and Committee Discussion (combined):

Public safety discussion from 4:45 to 6:05 p.m.

SG introduction – Neighborhood Public Forums throughout the City – this is the 5th.

Discussion topics as presented by the public to include:



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- Mark Hughes – Justice for All – invited to the speakout this evening – Dismantling institutionalized racism – working in Montpelier also – here to show support for this evening’s speakout – also bring attention to the needs of the old North End.
- Clelia Sweeney – not a Burlington resident but here for rights for democracy
- Alyssa Chen – police may not be the best mechanism for response to Hate Crime.

DH: gives synopsis of the 4 prior meetings

- James Haslam – Executive Director – Rights for Democracy – Thanks SG – Speak out tonight – in addition to the KKK flyer incidents there have been other disturbing incidents lately – response is inadequate – check systems and how they are responding

SG: and if more people come forward, it will be important for us to listen – action to come soon hopefully

- Mark Hughes – national history, etcetera – see we have institutionalized, rationalized, denied and hidden. Manifests in housing, employment, health care and the judicial systems – all facets of life. Understand data retention requirements and other requirements – we are talking; community organizing; research; education. Check community policing; judicial monitoring – Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform – see transparency that law enforcement needs

DH: Asked Deputy Chief Bovat to give us an update re the investigation

SG: Before that though, Mark is going to have to leave and he has an open letter which he wants to read and have submitted to the Committee to be included with the minutes (see attached).

BBo: Update on the investigation of the KKK flyers

- Issues of satisfying the elements to charge
- Ultimately, we will probably submit a packet to the State’s Attorney for review.
- Assuming we identify the individual





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4. Other Business:

- Work session after – Nov. 12 from 12 to 1:30 in City Attorney Conference Room.

5. Adjournment:

DH moved to adjourn.

SG seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

