



## REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

4:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL

### 1. Called to order/Declaration of Quorum:

Mayor Daniel Biss called the meeting at 4:05p.m.

**Committee Present:** Mayor Daniel Biss, Patrick Keenan-Devlin, Andrew V Papachristos, Council Member Bobby Burns, Betty Ester, Council Member Devon Reid, Alejandra Ibanez, Kristen White, Nathan Norman, Sarah Bogan, Sean Peck-Collier, Kymberly Walton, and Marcus Campbell

**Committee Absent:** Betty Bogg, Evangeline Semark, Council Member Cicely Fleming

**Others Present:** Shenicka Hohenkirk, ICMA Management Fellow; Aretha Barnes, Interim Police Chief; Melissa Sacluti, Deputy Chief

### 2. Public Comment

No Public Comment

### 3. Approval of the July 06, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Sean Peck-Collier moved to approve the minutes, Committee Member Sara Bogan seconded. The approval of the July 06, 2021 meeting minutes was approved unanimously.

### 4. Outlining the Values and Principles of this Committee

- Mayor Biss led the discussion on the values and principles of the committee to establish an organized document that highlights the committees shared values and principles.
- There are four topics on the list for the committee to outline through as values and principles:
  - The historical relationship between policing and race in America;
  - Imperative of viewing violence as a public health crisis;
  - Building a public safety system that centers the needs of survivors/those most affected by violence;
  - A need for investment in non-police state capacity to solve public safety problems.

- Committee Member Sean Peck-Collier added to this list by including *Proactive Transparency and Accountability Initiatives* as another topic for values and principles.
- Committee Member Kymberly Walton suggested to possibly have a dashboard that is a weekly crime map that includes the voices of the community of violence that is taken place throughout the City to become more inclusive.

## 5. Establishing a List of External Resources

- Mayor Biss provided a brief overview of outside organizations who are interested in the Reimagining Public Safety work and what external resources the committee should tap into. The list of those groups Mayor Biss have been in contact with are:
  - The Center of Police for Equity,
  - The Alliance for Safety and Justice,
  - Law Enforcement Action Partnership
  - Municipalities around the country
- Council Member Reid added Peer Services as one of the organizations he has been in contact with to reallocate resources towards decriminalizing drugs in Evanston.
- Committee Member Sean Peck-Collier also added to the list The Shriver Center on Poverty Law to help focus on policies and laws that deals with racial inequity in poverty areas.

## 6. Follow-up Discussion on Public Input

- Mayor Biss provided the committee with a brief update on a few public input discussions with the Moran Center on teaching a session/training or two on non-violence to a group of youth participants in Evanston.
- Additionally, communicate with The Alliance for Safety and Justice due to their interest in this work and meeting with the committee to figure out ways for both groups to engage around public safety.
- Committee Member Betty Ester suggested the committee to have open community meetings/round table discussions that can be more inclusive for Evanstonians to participate in this work.
- Committee Member Sara Bogan suggested doing a flyer campaign/survey for community areas that is most over policed and partner with the Evanston Fight for Black Lives group to tackle this work.

## 7. Working Group Report Out:

- **Rethinking the Organizational Structure Group**
  - Creating a few categories that the group will do some research into such as reimagining justice, decriminalization, diversion and deflection, decriminalizing offenses like drugs, rethinking emergency responses and reimagining oversight and accountability
  - The major questions the group would like to look into are: What should be arrest-able offenses in the City of Evanston? And What offenses that needs to be decriminalized in the City of Evanston?

- **Breaking down Data (EPD) Group**
  - Working through data around patrol via block by block, areas and wards.
  - Sara Jones walked through nine different reports for what kind of information is accessible and what information is not in order to make an assessment analysis.
- **Violence Prevention/Strategies Group**
  - The focus is going to continue to be on the ground responses to violence prevention specifically assaulted violence, suicide and also acknowledging the larger structural systemic issues and making sure the conversations incorporate victims and survivors.
  - This group would like some recommendations about what the City should do to support on the ground violence prevention.
  - Recognizing the resources that can help with all demographics in Evanston and Wards.
  - Best practices for trauma responses and reentry strategies and what the needs/expectations are in Evanston.

6. **Schedule for Next Meeting:**  
Scheduled for Tuesday August 03, 2021 at 4:00 pm

7. **Adjournment**