

LOCATION: Peace United Church of Christ – 1111 N. 11th Ave East

MEMBERS Present:

x	David Baker	X	Katherine Eagle	X	Renee VanNett
	Patricia Behning Oakes	X	Gabriel Green	X	Bob Grytdahl - Staff
x	Doug Bowen-Bailey	X	Blair Powless		

GUESTS:

Duluth Task Force for Improved Community Police Accountability: Ellen O’Neill, Dr. Bob Powless, Xavier Bell, Ricky DeFoe, Sheryl Boman,

Police Liaison: Lt. Jeff Kazel,

Others: Allegra Henderson, Dan Boese, Ryan Morris, Key Powless, Matthew Clark

Introductions - Board members, task force members, and guests introduced themselves

Potluck – Thanks to all who contributed to having a fine meal for our gathering.

GROUP DISCUSSION

We began our discussion with President Van Nett asking the Task Force to share their input based on their history and experience with working to establish the Citizen Review Board. The bullet points listed under each topic represent perspectives and insights shared by Task Force members. The CRB members will need to reflect on what was shared and determine how to utilize this input.

Task Force: Vision and Goals –

Improved safety in the community

- Help be a bridge to further dialogue between the police and community
- One concern raised about the amount of concern of influence from the Duluth Police Department on citizen perspectives
- Concern to have equal presence of community as is shown by the City and the Duluth Police Department
- Importance of building trust – not always about agreeing – using modified consensus
- First focus to build teamwork among the CRB to have unity and solidarity among the board (allowing for different individual perspectives) and improve relationships with the police department
- Leading from the middle (recognizing that there will be tension with community who don’t see the CRB representing them & and that there may be tension with Duluth Police Department that doesn’t see the CRB representing them)
- Importance of CRB being on board with being on the same page for having a critical analysis of power and systemic racism
- Focus on values – and what values can be made explicit as we move forward
- Lack of cultural understanding – and need to be able to address that including understanding how white culture interfaces with other cultures
- Focus on accountability – including community and police (Need to be balanced in how rooted you are with police and how rooted you are in community)
- Important for CRB to look at both individual cases but also look at larger patterns
- Importance of recognizing our imperfections, but need to pull together toward a goal
- Consider the impact of having Duluth Police Department being the logo on the signs welcoming people into the meeting

Suggestions for Procedures with Handling Complaints

- Importance of having training to help develop procedures
- Think through what CRB can tell community after reaching results and have the ability to be accountability to the community.

Approved: 2/26/13

Data Undergirding CRB Proposal

- Luna Study – Request for that to be distributed to the board so they can see that information
- Didn't allow lack of money be an obstacle to making the work of the Task Force happen

Suggested Case for Review

- Jouppi case - though this is an active case so not eligible for the board to review at this point;

What type of relationships between Task Force and the CRB?

- Have a respect for community analysis, and be open in listening to learn;
- Share the Luna report; Look at the framework of the development of the ordinance
- Task Force could be a resource for the CRB; CRB can make requests of the Task Force
- Important to learn from each other and find your own way

Suggestions for Training

- Developing a common language to talk about trauma from the community's perspective – historic and general trauma
- Race Awareness Workshop – have a common language to talk about
- Meet regularly with the Mayor – develop that relationship with the City Administration
- Eileen Luna's report
- Looking at the history of law enforcement in domination in society
- Need to look into the ground rules/policies for traffic stops – perception that discretion is abused by police officers particularly related to people of color
- Develop clear ways to communicate the complaint process to the community