

**MEMORANDUM**

**Community Advisory on Public Safety (CAPS) Commission  
Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 5:30 p.m. – Allison Conference Room (#225),  
401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana**

The Regular Session meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m.

**Commission members present in person:** Nejla Routsong, Jason Michalek, Patty Moon

**Commission members present over Zoom:** Kamala Brown-Sparks, Sophia Amos

**Commission members absent:** Tyler Shaffer

**Public present:** Matthew Solomon (virtual, left 5:56), Sam Dove (virtual, joined 6:36), Ariane Gerard (in person)

**City staff present:** Ash Kulak

INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL (5:31 p.m.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (5:32 p.m.)

- Cm. Brown-Sparks moved and it was seconded to amend the agenda to add a guest speaker Matthew Solomon before the Reports section of the Agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:34 p.m.)

- Cm. Brown-Sparks moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes from August 3, 2023 CAPS meeting. Minutes approved 5-0.

GUEST SPEAKER (5:36 p.m.)

- Introduced by Cm. Routsong (5:36 p.m.)
  - o CAPS was selected for IU Cinema Screenshare program and plans to screen Matthew Solomon's film *Reimagining Safety* on Saturday, February 23, 2024, at 7 p.m., with a 90 minute running time followed by a panel at 8:30 featuring Solomon, the film director, and experts from the film featured in the film.
  - o Discussed funding for bringing in speakers and thinking about potential sponsorships and who to invite.
  - o Gave website for film: [reimaginingsafetymovie.com](http://reimaginingsafetymovie.com)
- Matthew Solomon (5:42 p.m.) discussed several screenings across U.S.
- Q&A portion (5:45 p.m.). Solomon answered several questions, including questions about the live stream, advance screenings for CAPS members, and questions about the film itself.

## REPORTS (5:56 p.m.)

Co-chairs: Cm. Michalek asked about the recent CAPS resignations. Cm. Moon reported outreach to possible speakers for the upcoming outreach event.

### Individuals:

- Cm. Routsong – commended Cm. Brown-Sparks’s efforts to attend meetings, reported on efforts to advocate for including APS Report’s recommendations in annual budget including asking for endorsements of the letter to the mayor asking to include the funds in the budget
- Cm. Amos – apologized for scheduling issues preventing attendance at meetings
- Cm. Brown-Sparks – thanked Cm. Routsong

### Committees:

- Reparations Committee –
  - Cm. Brown-Sparks reported that Genealogy Day will be Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> in the early afternoon
  - Cm. Routsong reported that Cm. Brown-Sparks will be a secondary speaker because the keynote speaker is not local
  - Cm. Moon reported that the person she spoke with at the NAACP does not have the capacity to participate
  - Cm. Brown-Sparks requested assistance from staff to make a scheduling poll for the next committee meeting
- CAPS Public Outreach Committee –
  - Cm. Routsong reported that the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability voted unanimously to endorse the letter to the mayor, and also reported on the process of reaching out to other city boards and commissions and the administration’s response to this advocacy.
  - Cm. Routsong moved and it was seconded for an attorney from the Legal department to attend a CAPS meeting to explain the administration’s guidance on CAPS Commission’s advocacy and attendance at other city board and commission meetings. Motion passed 5-0.
- Research Committee – Cm. Michalek explained that the need for this committee no longer exists. Staff liaison explained that sub quorum groups can always conduct research together or individually without a formal committee. Cm. Moon moved and it was seconded to dissolve the Research Committee. Motion passed 5-0.

Staff:

- Council staff informed members of the two most recent resignations from the CAPS Commission and informed commissioners that the Common Council will review the commission pursuant to Ordinance 20-20 on the next Common Council Regular Session on September 20, 2023 during Reports.

Public: None

Brief Recess was cancelled. (6:28 p.m.)

NEW BUSINESS (6:29 p.m.)

CAPS Resolution 23-01

- Staff liaison explained that a recently resigned commissioner wanted to bring this item forward to the commission and explained why it was still on the Agenda, should any other commissioner want to bring it forward as their own proposal
- Cm. Moon wanted to take lead on this item at the next meeting
- The item was tabled for the next meeting

Monroe County 911 Review Committee

- Cm. Routsong summarized the Monroe County 911 Review Committee's FINAL Recommendations for Alternatives to Police Response to 911 Calls for Service Report.
- Cm. Routsong presented her proposed draft response to the recommendations put forth by this committee.
- Cm. Michalek moved and it was seconded to accept this draft response as the CAPS Commission's response to the Review Committee's Report. Motion passed 5-0.
- CAPS members requested the response be sent to the Mayor, Common Council, Review Committee, and posted on the CAPS Commission website. Upon request, staff liaison agreed to assist in finding contact information and forwarding the response.

Alternative Public Safety Report Revisions

- Cm. Routsong presented the proposed revisions to the APS Report that were technical or factual in nature, including the number of years the CAPS Commission has been meeting and when it was founded, within the background and summary.
- Cm. Moon moved and it was seconded to approve the factual and technical changes. Motion passed 5-0.

CAPS New Meeting Time

- Commissioners looked at the google scheduling sheet and discussed availability for meetings for the remainder of the year.
- Cm. Moon moved and it was seconded to change the regular session meeting times to the first Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

OTHER BUSINESS & TOPIC SESSIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS (6:54 p.m.)

- Cm. Routsong announced the September 18, 2023 meeting of the Bloomington/Monroe County Human Rights Commission and asked other commissioners to attend that meeting and ask for endorsements to the letter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Memorandum prepared by:  
Ash Kulak, Staff