

MEMORANDUM

**Community Advisory on Public Safety (CAPS) Commission
Monday, June 1, 2023, 3:00 p.m. – Hooker Conference Room (#245),
401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana**

The Regular Session meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m.

Commission members present in person: Shelby Ford, Patty Moon, Carolyn Leinenbach, Matthew Needler (left at 4 p.m.), Jason Michalek

Commission members present remotely (Zoom): Tyler Shaffer, Nejla Routsong

Commission members absent: Kamala Brown-Sparks

City staff present: Ash Kulak

Public present: one member of the public (preferred to remain anonymous) attended in person, and three were present via Zoom

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- No amendments to agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Cm. Needler moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

REPORTS:

Co-Chairs:

- Cm. Ford reported on time commitments and personal reasons impacting service on Commission.
- Cm. Needler had no report.

Individuals:

- Cm. Leinenbach reported on some of the state legislation regarding gender and sexual minorities, requesting staff look into municipalities across the country that provide protections for transgender youth and healthcare workers.
- Cm. Shaffer requested the Commission look into the affordable housing report.
- Cm. Moon reported on how to facilitate work collaboration.

Committees:

- Cm. Routsong reported on compiling the report and recommendations for the Alternative Public Safety Outreach Special Committee and discussed the new timeline and schedule, requesting work sessions for full Commission feedback.

Staff:

- Council staff welcomed new members and explained the reversion dollars available to the Commission for the remainder of the year.

Public:

- One member of the public who preferred to remain anonymous had feedback on the Town Hall event, specifically encouraging the Commission to consider the perspective of crime victims with its work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fall Event Planning: Cm. Ford proposed the Commission put on another larger event for the fall. Cm. Ford suggested getting public input, based on public comments made, including how the bigger issues are affecting individuals, the community discussion, and advocacy efforts. Cm. Ford also suggested CAPS Commission presence at Bloomington Pride.

Juneteenth Event: Cm. Routsong explained the change in the proposed event, due to time constraints and so as to not conflict with the City's preexisting Juneteenth events, from a Juneteenth Event to a Black Genealogy Event in September or October as a collaboration with the Monroe County History Center. Cm. Leinenbach proposed CAPS presence at the City's Juneteenth events. Cm. Moon volunteered to design flyers. Council staff agreed to print flyers.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Regular Schedule: Cm. Ford moved and it was seconded to change the meeting schedule Regular Meetings every month on the first Thursday at 3 p.m. The motion passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

START Program: Cm. Michalek summarized the START report on Bloomington Housing Affordability, identifying the main issues (lack of available units for low income households and increasing rent) and recommendations (large apartment complexes focused solely on affordability). Cm. Shaffer found compelling that the housing market is focused on development for students in luxury housing. Cm. Routsong proposed putting together a possible committee for this issue. Cm. Ford proposed sending the report as a recommendation to Council, either as a report to Council, as a CAPS resolution with recommendations to implement the report, or as a simple email attachment.

Budget: Cm. Ford proposed a google excel sheet for ideas on expenditure use for reversion funds allotted for the remainder of the 2023 year. Council staff explained process for 2024 budget, including written itemization. Cm. Ford suggested talking about future budgeting during working session.

TOPIC SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

Commissioner Ideas for Discussion: None

IU Cinema Creative Collaboration: Cm. Routsong proposed collaborating with the IU Cinema to show films on the topic of alternative public safety to engage with other people and organizations in the community on reframing how the community views safety, from a “command and control” to a “community resilience” effort. Cm. Leinenbach inquired about the cost. Cm. Routsong explained process for application and expected costs of two different programs, Creative Collaborations and Screen Share.

First Responders Research: Cm. Needler wants to begin research on first responders, either individually, as a separate committee, or within the Research Committee. Cm. Shaffer expressed interest in the topic. Cm. Routsong reported that the Alternative Public Safety Outreach (APSO) Special Committee conducted research and outreach on the issue of emergency dispatch and stated that there is room for continued work on this topic moving forward.

Updating Procedures & Bylaws: Cm. Ford proposed adding this to the work session list. No objections.

CAPS Annual Report to Council: Cm. Ford proposed adding this to the work session list. No objections.

Deaf Club: Cm. Ford proposed moving this to the next Regular Session when Cm. Brown-Sparks is able to attend. No objections.

Implicit Bias Training: Cm. Routsong believed this item was added by Cm. Brown-Sparks due to the Monroe County CHIPS Program offering implicit bias trainings. Cm. Ford proposed moving this to the next Regular Session when Cm. Brown-Sparks is able to attend. No objections.

Work Session Agenda: Cms. discussed prioritizing discussion of the following topics at the next work session: bylaws update, reviewing APSO report, budgeting and spending for this year, community event planning, annual report to Council.

Additional Public Comment: Jim Shelton, who was unable to comment during the official period, offered a public comment.

Additional Discussion: Cms. continued discussion about the initial public comment regarding victims and public safety responses.

Meeting adjourned.

Memorandum prepared by:
Ash Kulak, Staff