

Meeting Notice and Agenda Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 5:00 pm
Hooker Conference Room (#245), Showers Building, 401 N. Morton Street

The public may also access the meeting at the following link:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/88236441481?pwd=MEV2WVVDbjAwNnVqd1hwSG4wREllZz09>

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. SELECT A MEMBER TO KEEP MINUTES
- IV. APPROVAL OF MEMORANDA/MINUTES – February 25, 2022
- V. REPORTS
 - a. Co-Chairs
 - b. Committees – Report
 - i. Conflict Resolution
 - ii. Reparations & Atonement
 - iii. Research
 - iv. Alternatives to Policing
 - v. Housing?
 - c. Staff
- VI. REPORTS FROM THE PUBLIC / PUBLIC COMMENT
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a. Discussion of annual schedule – Remove work sessions?
 - b. Update Committee membership and confirm committee meeting schedules
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. CAPS Commission Resolution 22-01 – Condemning Antisemitism and Anti-Jewish Violence
 - b. Annual Report to Council
 - i. Create timeline and assign tasks to Commission members
 - ii. Discuss committee-specific annual report guidelines proposed below
 - 1. Identify clearly the major problem(s) your committee seeks to resolve or address, ie. Purpose or mission of the committee
 - 2. After concluding research, create 2-3 high-impact, actionable recommendations that are supported by your research and ideally have proven results in other US cities

3. Each recommendation should have: a specific objective related to the purpose of the committee, recommended actions to appropriate city bodies (Mayor's Office, Common Council or Board of Public Safety), where possible please include suggestions regarding timelines, funding, accountability mechanisms, data/indicators for measuring success, citations, models/cases from other cities, and possible local/national experts that the city can contact for further guidance.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. School safety concerns

X. TOPIC SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- a. April – Updating bylaws re: Co-Chair rotation and Commissioner attendance

XI. ADJOURNMENT

CAPS Commission Goals and Purpose:

Perform research and gather data on the perceptions and preferences about public safety from community members, with specific focus on perceptions and preference data gathered from minority community members, individuals who are disabled, and other often marginalized community members

Research evidence-based alternatives to traditional policing

Identify best practices in public safety globally and evaluate the efficacy of such practices for implementation in Bloomington.

Make recommendations to the Common Council, the Board of Public Safety, and/or the Mayor or the Mayor's designee on policies and programs that enhance public safety for all community members.

MEMORANDUM
Community Advisory on Public Safety (CAPS) Commission
Friday, Feb 25th, 2022

Per IC 5-14-1.5-3.7, this meeting was conducted electronically via Zoom.

This meeting called to order: 5:04 p.m.

Commission members present via Zoom: Kamala Brown-Sparks, Alex Mann, Renee Miller, Eliza Carey, Shelby Ford, and Nejla Routsong.

Commission members absent: none

City staff and officials present: Stephen Lucas

5:05 INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL

5:07 Commissioner Mann volunteers to keep minutes

5:09 APPROVAL OF AGENDA: motion made, 2nded, and unanimously approved.

5:10 Mr. Lucas suggests approving all recent minutes as one block in the interest of time. Motion made, 2nded, and unanimously approved

5:11 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FOLLOWING MTGS:

- a. January 27, 2022 – Regular Session
- b. February 1, 2022 – Research Committee
- c. February 10, 2022 – Alternatives to Policing Committee
- d. February 15, 2022 – Conflict Resolution Committee
- e. February 15, 2022 – Research Committee

Motion made, 2nded, and unanimously approved

5:12 Mr. Lucas volunteers to keep time for discussion, commissioners agree to 3 min for 1st round and 2 min for 2nd round, as usual

5:13 Call for reports from individual commissioners

5:14 Commissioner Ford shares resources for sexual assault, CDC, RAINN. Suggests that Chandler Boys, confidential victims' advocate at IU, could be a future guest speaker

5:15 Commissioner Brown-Sparks shares research about African-American-owned buildings and the Historical Registry

5:18 Commissioner Routsong shares progress on Anti-Semitism resolution. Will have a draft for the commission and community soon

5:20 Commissioner Carey shares her personal research into having one-on-one convos with law enforcement

5:22 Commissioner Routsong shares timeline for voting on resolution and asks that we reconsider rescheduling March mtg to avoid Shabbat

5:23 Commissioner Brown-Sparks suggests inviting BPD social worker as guest speaker

5:25 Commissioner Routsong suggests that we schedule guest speakers during committee mtgs so as not to use up commission mtg time

5:27 Commissioner Mann updates commission on progress of Conflict Resolution committee

5:29 Commissioner Ford makes point that increase in number of reported sexual assaults might not necessarily reflect an increase in assaults themselves

5:30 Commissioner Routsong updates commission on progress of Policing Alternatives committee

5:32 Mr. Lucas reminds commission of meeting requirements once we resume in-person meetings

5:33 Mr. Lucas discusses permanent regular session schedule as well as committee meetings advance scheduling

5:38 Mr. Lucas requests that committees share all scheduled meeting times with him

5:40 Commissioner Brown-Sparks reminds the commission that one of her committees only has 2 members, and that she is immunocompromised

5:42 Mr. Lucas suggests that CAPS requests city-provided childcare for advisory commissions

5:44 Commissioner Brown-Sparks suggests CAPS requests city-provided commissions with budgets for educational materials

5:45 Commissioner Routsong supports stipend idea and Commissioner Miller suggests adding it to next agenda

5:50 CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Jim Shelton offers support from The Chamber for the Anti-Semitism Resolution

5:52 DISCUSSION: possible re-naming of Reparations and Atonement Committee. Motion made, 2nded, and unanimously approved to keep current name

5:57 DISCUSSION: Temporary vs. permanent chairperson election. Commissioner Brown-Sparks asks if commissioners all still want to take turns as Chair, and she is willing to still organize agendas if someone else is willing to run the meetings

6:03 Commissioner Carey regrets that she can't take on the role of Chair right now

6:04 Commissioner Miller suggest a rotation of a few months for each person as Chair once we have more commissioners, and for now would like to elect an interim Chair

6:06 Commissioner Routsong offers to co-Chair with Commissioner Brown-Sparks on a more permanent basis

6:08 Commissioner Ford suggests we keep new Chair assignments interim until next month's mtg which will hopefully have new Commissioners present

6:11 Commissioner Mann suggests commissioners Brown-Sparks and Routsong co-Chair for now and Mr. Lucas suggests several possible motions to establish that

6:14 Commissioner Routsong moves that she and Commissioner Brown-Sparks co-Chair for next 3 months. Motion 2nded and unanimously approved

6:16 Commissioner Miller hands meeting over to Commissioners Brown-Sparks and Routsong

6:17 DISCUSSION: Committee membership. Commissioner Ford asks if we need a policy for commissioners to join committees. Commissioner Carey suggests no further protocols needed

6:20 Commissioner Miller suggests having minimum requirements for number of committees each commissioner joins instead of maximum

6:24 Commissioner Mann suggests that as new commissioners join, we let them know which committees still need members

6:25 Commissioners Routsong and Ford suggests a permanent line item in the general session meeting agendas to discuss committee memberships and any changes that commissioners want to make or any questions about joining, etc

6:27 Commissioner Routsong recaps: no minimums or maximums right now, no motions or votes necessary

6:29 No objections to continuing meeting until 6:45

6:30 DISCUSSION: Annual report. Motion made, 2nded, and unanimously approved to deliver report to City Council during their May 18th meeting

6:36: Tues Mar 22 at 5pm suggested and unanimously agreed upon for next General Session commission meeting

6:44 Motion made and 2nded to have Regular Session commission meetings on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 5pm. Vote passes 5-0, Commissioner Brown-Sparks absent

6:46 MEETING ADJOURNED

Memorandum prepared by:

Alex Mann, Commission member

Community Advisory on Public Safety Schedule of Regular Meetings | 2022

Regular Session	Work Session
January 27, 2022	January 13, 2022
February 24, 2022	February 10, 2022
March 22, 2022	March 10, 2022
April 26, 2022	April 14, 2022
May 24, 2022	None
June 28, 2022	June 9, 2022
July 26, 2022	July 14, 2022
August 23, 2022	August 11, 2022
September 27, 2022	September 8, 2022
October 25, 2022	October 13, 2022
November 22, 2022	November 10, 2022
December 27, 2022	December 8, 2022
All CAPS Regular Sessions are scheduled to begin at 5:00 pm. Work Sessions are scheduled to begin at 12 noon	

Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission
Resolution 22-01 - Condemning Antisemitism and Anti-Jewish Violence

Summary: In response to past and recent acts of antisemitism and anti-Jewish violence in our community, this Resolution condemns antisemitism and acts of anti-Jewish bigotry as morally reprehensible in themselves as well as serious threats to public safety, and it denounces the antisemitic sentiments that give rise to such acts as false, hateful and antithetical to core American values.

WHEREAS, the CAPS Commission is deeply disturbed that several acts of antisemitism, anti-Jewish violence and hate crimes have occurred in our community, including:

- an arson attack by a white supremacist group against the synagogue of Congregation Beth Shalom in 1982 [1],
- antisemitic hate literature that was publicly distributed in 1998 by a white nationalist who later killed two people and wounded nine in a shooting spree that targeted Jews, Blacks and Asians [2],
- three acts of vandalism against Hebrew books and Jewish community institutions Hillel and Chabad in 2010 [3],
- the theft of dozens of Jewish sacred religious objects from Indiana University students' doors in several dormitories in 2021 [4],
- verbal harassment of a Jewish Indiana University student in 2021 [5], and
- defacement by swastika of several pieces of property near campus and downtown Bloomington in 2021 and 2022 [5].

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY ON PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. Celebrates Bloomington's Jewish population as an indelible and valuable part of our community; and
2. Affirms the rights of Jews, people from Israel, and people of Jewish heritage to reside in our community as safely and securely as everyone else; and
3. Condemns all acts of violence, bigotry, hate speech and intimidation targeted at members of our community who are perceived to be Jewish as serious threats to public safety; and
4. Declares that antisemitic speech is:
 - a. is objectively false,
 - b. violates core American values such as liberty, equality and freedom, and
 - c. threatens the most basic civil liberties of all Americans; and
5. Calls upon Mayor John Hamilton, the Office of the Mayor, all Common Councilmembers and the Board of Public Safety to:
 - a. actively condemn antisemitic speech and anti-Jewish violence when they occur as both morally reprehensible and serious threats to public safety;
 - b. reinforce that antisemitism is altogether corrosive of American values, and as such, is to be unambiguously denounced and rejected [6];

- c. endeavor to share factually true portrayals of Judaism and Jews as a valuable part of American society and of our local community.

PASSED by the Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this _____ day of _____, 2022.

_____, Chair
Community Advisory on Public Safety Commission

Citations:

1. The arson attack on Congregation Beth Shalom in 1982 was described by Rabbi Brian Besser in a phone conversation with CAPS Commissioner Nejla Routsong on January 26, 2022.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtdid=198308150012>
2. The public distribution of antisemitic hate literature, as well as several other local acts of antisemitism included in this Resolution, was described by Rabbi Sue Silberberg, Executive Director of the Helene G. Simon Hillel Center at Indiana University, in a phone conversation with CAPS Commissioner Nejla Routsong on January 21, 2022.
<https://www.nytimes.com/1999/07/06/us/midwest-gunman-had-engaged-in-racist-acts-at-2-universities.html>
3. <https://www.hillel.org/about/news-views/news-views---blog/news-and-views/2010/12/02/indiana-hillel-responds-to-anti-jewish-incidents>
4. <https://www.wthr.com/article/news/local/indiana-university-iu-task-force-antisemitic-actions-college-campus/531-e86839b8-72d0-4b38-9d49-e946ede8d6>
5. <https://www.wrtv.com/news/local-news/monroe-county/bloomington/iu-bloomington-community-react-to-antisemitism-incidents>
6. This phrasing was suggested by Professor Alvin Rosenfeld, the Irving M. Glazer Chair in Jewish Studies and Director of the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism at Indiana University in an email conversation with CAPS Commissioner Nejla Routsong on February 22, 2022.

Submitted by:

Nejla Routsong, Co-Chair, CAPS Commission
Kamala Brown-Sparks, Co-Chair, CAPS Commission
Renee Miller, Member, CAPS Commission

Endorsed by:

Abdulkader Sinno, Associate Professor, Political Science and Middle Eastern Studies at the Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies, Indiana University

Rabbi Lewis "Buz" Bogage, Former University Rabbi, DePauw University

Doug Bauder, Bloomington Resident

Carolyn Lipson-Walker, Assistant Director, Borns Jewish Studies Program, Indiana University

Jerrett Alexander, Student, Class of 2023, Political Science, Germanic Studies, and Environmental and Sustainability Studies, Indiana University, Member of Young Democratic

Socialists of America, Bloomington, and Founder and Co-President of Youth for Environmental Sustainability

Colin Murphy, MPA Candidate, Class of 2022, O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University, and Member of Bloomington Commission on Sustainability

John Shearer, Chair, Indiana Green Party

Sponsored by:

Palestine Solidarity Committee at IU
The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce
Bloomington Commission on Sustainability
Young Democratic Socialists of America, Bloomington