



City of Salisbury
CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM
TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES - 8.25.21



In Attendance (Members in Green):

Eileen Johnson, Kendra Hayward, Wesley Moore, Keith Myer, Joseph Pryor, Travon Miles, Heather Collins, James Holbrook, Eddie Harmon, Danielle Thomas, Kala Farrare, Chief Duncan, and members of the Public

Members Absent:

Brian Perez

Support: Julie English

Meeting Attendance/Participation

Mrs. Johnson informed the group, from a conversation with Mayor Day, that the officers who attended meetings in the past would not be attending future meetings. Members expressed the desire to have the officers represented at the subcommittee meetings.

Chief Duncan will check in with the officers. She explained that there are additional situations weighing on them outside of the task force. There was discussion on the importance of forming a relationship with the officers to gain the comfort level needed for the serious discussions the task force is looking for.

Task Force Members

The task force, with prior permission from Mayor Day, removed non-active members. The current number of active members is fourteen.

Listening Session Feedback

- Community provided good input
- Valid points were shared

- Bilingual officers are needed
- There was no hostility or negative attitudes
- Chief Duncan was a great resource of information
- Lacked a diverse representation of the community
- Other events were happening at the same time which may have affected the attendance

There was discussion on having another listening session. Mrs. Johnson made a motion to hold another listening session. James Holbrook seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 10-0.

A member of the public in attendance offered to reach out to the church community to publicize the listening session. She also shared the idea of having translators, who are members of the community, available to assist the officers when there is a language barrier. This would help prevent officers from shouldering the language barrier problem.

Subcommittee Updates

Ms. Hayward summarized the rough draft of recommendations compiled by the Officer Wellness subcommittee. There was a lengthy discussion on officer retention topics; including salaries, compression, retirement benefits, and incentives. Chief Duncan responded to several suggestions from the members.

Closing

Mrs. Johnson reviewed the dates for the upcoming meetings. She asked that subcommittee groups focus on the recommendations list.

Mrs. Johnson thanked those who attended the Listening Session and everyone who attended the meeting tonight.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 22nd at 6pm