

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE MEETING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2017

6:00 PM

SALVATION ARMY

600 ROSEMARY ST.

WEST PALM BEACH, FL

MEMBERS PRESENT AND GUESTS: Barbara Cheives, Converge and Associates, Chief Sarah Mooney, City of West Palm Beach, Daniel Eisinger, Public Defender's Office, Capt. Chris Keane, PBSO, Adam McMichael, Asst. US Attorney, Ricky Petty, Cheo Reid, Asst. State Attorney, Mark Strach, Dept. Of Corrections, Charlotte Wright, Community Partners, Rhonda Rodgers, Coalition of 100 Black Women, Dr. Angela Bess, PBCSD, Rev. Kevin Jones, WPB, Ricky Petty, Healthier Together Boynton, Kristine Henson, Executive Director, CJC, Katherine Shover, CJC, Rosalind Murray, CJC

I. The meeting was opened at 6:07 pm. By Chairman, Barbara Cheives. She briefly shared that Chief Kitzerow would no longer be the co-Chair. She thanked him for his service. She then asked Chief Mooney to Co-Chair, which she graciously accept. Introductions were made.

II. There was a motion by Chief Mooney, and seconded by Cheo Reid to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2017 meeting.

III. The agenda was approved in the form of a motion by Daniel Eisinger, and seconded by Mark Strach.

IV. **Old Business:**

A discussion ensued regarding the Urban Stories Festival, which the Task force agreed to be a sponsor. It takes place January 27-28, 2018 in West Palm Beach. Our portion will be organizing a dialogue around Kids and Cops. Dr. Bess suggested that children from alternative schools be in attendance. The premise is how to improve the interaction between police and community. CJC staff will provide a 1-3 sentences describing the Dialogue for the program flyer.

V. **New Business:**

Ms. Cheives remarked about the last meeting in October and the young man that shared his story. She was concerned about the Taskforce becoming too corporate, and too much of a gatekeeper. The lack of engagement concerned her. Capt. Keane felt that law enforcement is engaging. We have to make sure we do not have mission creep and we remain on mission. Ms. Cheives expressed that we need more community members. Rev. Jones stated that we need to have tough conversation around important issues. Ricky Petty expressed that we need the right people around the table. We need the guys from the corner. Charlotte Wright

suggested that we take the event to the corner, back into the community. Kristina Henson stated the challenges involved with getting core team members out. Identify a particular community and have a dialogue about criminal justice. Michael McAdams stated that this meeting could serve as a mediation. It could be part of restorative justice project when a problem is identified. All criminal justice agencies are systems players. They should all be involved in fostering better dialogues.

We will do the following:

1. Identify the community.
2. Know we have the support of law enforcement.
3. Put out the word to find out if people want a dialogue.

Daniel Eisinger stated that we could create a forum for community to talk. Like a Town Hall. We will need ambassadors. It must be a two-way conversation. Cheo Reid stated, we are not a grievance board.

Kristina Henson stated that we can research what is going on in other communities that are engaging in an open dialogue.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.