



POLICE-COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Training Room Dover Police Dept. (46 Chestnut Street, Dover, NH)
Meeting Date: **Thursday, July 22, 2021**
Meeting Time: **5:00pm**

Meeting opened at 5:05PM

Police Department members Present: Captain David Terlemezian, Captain Brad Gould, Sergeant John Tarmey (presenter) and Officer Brynn Dunne (presenter)

Committee Members Present: Father Ryan Amazeen (Faith), Dennis Munson (Business Community) Maggie Fogarty (Faith), Chris Kozak (Community Partners), Hershey Hirschkop, Tom Waldron, DHS Student Griffin Sawyer.

Committee Members Excused/Absent: Lauren Berman, Dan Bricker, Clifton West, Bob Carrier, Brian Collins, Karen McNair, Roxanne Osgood, Ashley Lewis,

Other Guests: Dover High School Principal Peter Driscoll.

1. Welcome, review of agenda – Captain Terlemezian
2. Department Updates – Captain Terlemezian informed the group that the department continues to work toward the Records Management System change which will take place in early September and that the body worn camera roll-out will follow in October. He also informed the group the department continues to focus on hiring police officers and dispatchers.
3. Presentation and discussion on the value of School Resources Officers – Sergeant John Tarmey, Officer Brynn Dunne and DHS Principal Peter Driscoll. During the presentation, the group was able to hear how our SRO program is structured and how that might be different from those of other schools in other areas of the country. The group learned that our school resource officers operate in a cooperative manner with the school administration but that the officers do not enforce school rules. In fact, police intervention and arrests are the last resort. There are very few arrests of students that take place and an even smaller number of those occur during the school day. Most arrests that are made are done after school and by appointment with the student's parent directly involved.

The group also learned that our officers provide passive and direct mentorship, as well as support, they teach classes, and they provide for the safety for the entire school.

4. Discussion about use of survey – All
The group also discussed the possibility of administering a survey to the community to try to determine what information about the police department the community at large is interested in.

Tom discussed a COPS office survey he had seen and we discussed that as a possible starting point. NH Listens was also suggested as a possible partner for the survey. There

was some discussion of having listening meetings using the city's parks as the venues in order to hear from people from all parts of the city. Lastly we discussed the possibility of an October timeframe for the listening tour or potential survey. No formal decisions were made.

5. Committee members matters of interest – All

Chris Kozak updated the group on the mobile crisis response that is coming to this area of the state in January. He explained that it will involve a change in how emergency response from Community Partners for mental health evaluations will shift from the hospital to the community by sending staff directly to the person in crisis.

The group also discussed how some of them are grappling with the divisive language component in the state budget which has become law. This has not directly affected the police department but some of the other sectors represented on the committee have had questions as to how it may affect their operations.

6. Review of August agenda

The group decided that they wanted to hear about the department's victim/witness advocacy program at the next meeting.

7. Adjourn