

BRATTLEBORO CITIZENS POLICE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 18, 2016

Call to Order. Present: Christine Linn, Ben Coplan, Ken McCaffrey, Darah Kehnemuyi
Quorum present.

Agenda Review

Minutes of September 26, 2016 meeting approved.

Discussion of new directions for the Committee. Possibilities raised include increasing the number of committee members, and increasing community outreach. Questions asked about community outreach: how do we do more and are we seen as effective?

Discussion on the effectiveness of Committee's implementation of 2010 Policies and Procedures. Question raised as to who proposed these policies and whether they were appropriately adopted. Question raised as to the ability of a 5-member committee to effectively execute those policies.

Committee members each were asked to express why they joined the Committee.

Discussion held on how to facilitate communication between the community and the Brattleboro Police Department. It was noted that such a process would be different when addressing community complaints as opposed to individual complaints. Question posed as to whether Committee should place a box ad in our local newspapers with a usable phone number. It was agreed Committee's work included facilitating better communication, smoothing out miscommunications, and establishing a visible community presence.

Discussion had as to improving Committee's outreach. Ken agreed to draft a letter for submission to our local newspapers. The letter will be vetted among the Committee before submitting it.

The Committee reviewed one individual's complaint in order to get a view of process for addressing individual complaints in general. The following process outline was suggested:

1. Incident occurs;
2. Complaint is filed with BPD;
[BPD should contact and provide complaint paperwork to CPCC]
[CPCC should initiate first contact with Complainant to explain the investigative and the follow-up processes]
3. Complainant is provided letter explaining BPD's findings as a result of its investigation.
4. BPD provides CPCC with its investigative report and the letter informing the Complainant of BPD's decision.
5. CPCC follows up with Complainant.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Darah Kehnemuyi
Recording Clerk