

Summary of January 21st Meeting of the Saranac Lake Police Review Committee

The meeting was held via zoom from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Present were: John Sweeney, Chief James Joyce, Melinda Little, Ernest Hough, Sarah Clarkin, Asst. Suzanne Lavigne, Betsy Fuller, DA David Hayes. Absent: Angela Brice, Chris Morris.

Update on CALEP:

Suzanne informed all that a walk thru of the 3rd floor of 3 Main St has been completed with Citizen Advocates And as of Monday 1-25-2021 John Sweeney can negotiate space with CA.

The CALEP program via Citizen Advocates has potential to bill insurance and have access to additional funding applications

Social Media, Foil Requests:

Discussion of Facebook comments and the “vail of secrecy”

James responded to the Lexipol question in reference to procedural updates

John responded to the FOIL and what it is legally for a municipality vs private citizen or organizations.

Melinda, James and John responded to the current status of the most recent FOIL request and the status of the response.

Listening/Focus Groups:

Suzanne updated committee on the status of the focus group meeting with St. Joseph which should take place next week.

Website:

Sarah is currently reviewing the Lake Placid Website and will report to group with her review and suggestions for what we should be doing for the SL Website regarding the PD.

Final Document Update

All members present stated that they were comfortable with how the process was proceeding and acknowledged that each has their strengths and weaknesses on what individually they can contribute. All recognize that the Diversity within the group continues to be a struggle to maintain.

The final Document with recommendations will be voted upon by the committee for submission to the Village Board.

Ongoing Citizen Police Committee

Chris Morris e-mail was presented to the group and his review/proposal in reference to the Brattleboro VT committee.

Melinda to provide a proposed outline for the VL Citizen Police Interface Committee for the next meeting..

The ongoing committee will be a "Conduit for Communication" to the SLPD especially those who do not feel comfortable going to the Village Board, Village Manager or directly to the SLPD. This is in reference to the Focus Groups who stated they were not comfortable in direct conversation. Suzanne stated that the agency groups who are in contact with these groups may be the best line of communications to for the ongoing group.

The ongoing group will attempt to maintain a better diversity within the group, recognizing that this will be a challenge.

Sarah suggested 5-7 members.