

Summary of November 19th 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, Betsy Fuller, Sarah Clarkin, Suzanne Lavigne. Not in attendance Asst. DA David Hayes, Angela Brice

James commented that staffing issues may limit ability for community outreach at this time. Additional future training and outreach will further demand resources from the department which should be considered as the committee makes its recommendations,.

Ernest presented a summary of the points from the survey that can be used as talking points for the group's upcoming small listening sessions:

- Highest response to social and mental health issues. James and Suzanne stated that they were currently working on these with other agencies.
- Homeless
- The need to better align current resources and ensure that there's Professional Awareness of these resources in the community
- The survey pointed to better connection of the needs of the individual to the correct Professional Agency

General Discussion of the Committee and Community needs:

- Education at all levels of the services available in the community
- Community Outreach is needed
- Continued Training
- Police Website needs to be set up more like Lake Placid's Police site to better provide information to the community
- The Survey does not appear to have reached many of the groups that were anticipated to respond
- Can the Web presence of the Police be a connection point for other agencies so that the police are not the primary contact: IE Lost Pets – Tri Lakes Humane Society, Mental Health, Homeless
- 911 needs to be involved to better direct community rather than all going to the police
- Unified approach to providing information and accessing resources
- Can Channel 2 be utilized to provide information to the Community
- Our Strategic Communications need to be ongoing
- Mailing of resources to the community to keep them updated of the resources, possible directory

Individual Listening meetings are being organized to be held via Zoom or Conference call. James/Melinda to put together the points that need to go into a Press Release announcing the status of the committee and that another Public Meeting will be held Dec 17th. The goal is to have the listening groups completed by Dec 10th. The realization that in today's environment many of the groups that we anticipated having discussions with is not reality.

No Meeting the week of Thanksgiving, next meeting Dec 3rd