

## Welcome/Introductions

Name/Pronouns

Breathing/How are you doing?

## Old Items

- Homelessness/Homing Insecurity Forum

*Jessica recapped the seminar idea - online 90 minute event with expert panel members speaking on the topics of homelessness/home insecurity. Ben wondered if we'd been in touch with Jeff as it seemed like he was just going to move forward with it and there was minimal that we needed to do. Jessica had been in touch with him - we would contact speakers, set a time and date and host it. Because it's online, it's pretty low maintenance, we just need to decide whether or not we want to do it.*

*Committee decided to do it, so we were looking at a start time for the September 23rd seminar. Scott couldn't start until 6:30 at the earliest, Jessica has two other seminars that day and thought 6:30-7 would be best. Ben questioned the appetite for Zoom events - are we going to get a big turn out if everyone is already busy? Melissa wondered if it was better on a weekend. Jessica noted that Kathryn said that Thursdays seemed to be the most successful. Committee decided waiting until the weather turned a bit more might make people more favorable for a night in on zoom. Decided late October/early November before holidays kicked in. We zoomed in on October 28th at 6pm.*

*Ben, John, Melissa and Jessica would be available at that time. Decided the roles would be moderator (asking the predetermined questions), someone to monitor the chat, "security" (someone who knows how to mute/kick people out) and then host.*

*Jessica will communicate change with Kathryn and Jeff and will start contacting speakers. She will get the site up and running and work on communication. We will decide roles at the next meeting.*

- Statement on working with the police

**Recapped the thought that we need a statement on how we work with the police. Scott felt like this was important because we can't just throw rocks at them because they are a part of our community and who we are. We need to figure out how to work with them - disengagement is not a way to move forward.**

**Jessica reiterated that other districts don't have anything like this. There have been strong stances to specific items, but no "blanket statement" on how organizations work with the police departments.**

This was brought up in June of last year - why not find out what changes have happened in police activity and police relations in the last year. Could we engage other organizations about this talk or even talk to the police about what they are looking for? What is a way that we can engage that is both supportive and critical. Do we need to engage a rep from the police department for a longer term relationship to figure this out. We don't necessarily want to have an adversarial approach, but a collaborative approach. Part of our mandate is to figure out how we might bring the two very opposing viewpoints (pro-police, anti-police) together and make a collaborative approach.

In St. Anthony village after Philandro Castile, there was a lot of work with the police and specific officers who became the face of the police department and had open and honest conversations with the community. Is that what we need to do?

Ben brought up that it's important to talk about the contradiction of the fact that while we do see police doing good things, the system is not working and there are problems. Is it really feasible to have these conversations directly with the police. While we could hear from them, that's not going to result in us rubber stamping their ideas. How would that work? It would take someone very dedicated to going through this with us.

Could we have a representative with a small group that we could ask the hard questions? How could we work with you while still supporting change in the system?

We would have to build up what we would want to talk about before we actually do it (no bombard them). When a rep came and talked before, they kept talking about "changing the perception of the police," but it's not just perception, there are actual problems.

Scott was looking up some information and found that Mayor Carter has a Community First Public Safety Commission. Could we go there to find someone as a bridge than the SPPD themselves. [Here is an article on the commission](#). Out of that discussion came mention of the Citizen's League who deals with them. **John is going to contact them - sounds like they might be a bridge in this topic.** It's a valuable tool/document to have - this could be a longer term project.

Jessica informed that D10 has someone that speaks on equity and public safety that may tie into this topic. Committee decided that having public learning and conversation is more important than a statement, but a

statement may come out of these conversations with people who are already doing this work.

### New Items

- Keep St. Paul Home Check In (Tram - confirmed)
  - What's on the ballot
  - What can Districts Do?

**Jessica checked in with Tram and agreed that we have all the information we need to talking about the Rent Stabilization subject and took this meeting off her schedule. Jessica will send out information to the Equity Committee.**

- Voter Registration (Emily - Ramsey County Elections - confirmed)
  - Registration Information
  - Translated Documents
  - Virtual/distance options

**Emily didn't show up to the meeting. Committee discussed whether it was feasible with Covid and timing to do a voter registration at the September Seal Board meeting. Thought it would be feasible, but many weren't available. Talked about the October meeting, but didn't know if we could get people registered in time. Reiterated why we were doing this now - to get those most affected by Rent Stabilization to vote. Realized that there was a food drop off on October 12th at 2:30pm and that's when most people come down, so we decided to do it on that day - October 12th from 2:30-4pm.**

**Jessica will be in touch with Emily to make sure that it's enough time to get them in and what we need to know. Ben, Melissa, and John will be able to be there.**

- Brightside Produce Distribution (Web Contact - pending)

**Jessica hasn't hear from them - they're traveling. Wil know more next time!**
- Blood Drive or Vaccine Clinic

**Vaccine clinics are no longer being offered, so we will continue to push the ones that are happening. Blood drive is available to get involved in - no one was super interested in doing something like that.**
- Health Sanitation Union Flats draft letter

**Jessica presented the emailed complaint about the unsanitary issues at Union flats. It wasn't the first complaint to happen and since they're trusting us with these complaints, we need to advocate, but wasn't sure of the history with this. None of the committee members were informed on what we've done with Union Flats in the past - have we sent complaints that weren't addressed?**

***Jessica mentioned that Mohit might know more about this, but isn't present. We were looking into the committees that were formed after the last list of complaints, but didn't know who the contacts were for that and what the committees are in charge of.***

***The Committee wondered who we can connect to in order to get some of the issues addressed. Jessica informed them that the Environment Committee is addressing the trees and Kathryn is asking us to address the sanitation issues. Committee was uncomfortable sending a letter until we know what the residents want us to do - do they need resources on renter rights? Homeline? For us to hold committees accountable. Would like to reach out to Union Flats first unless that's already been done with no results.***

***Jessica will talk to both Kathryn and Mohit to figure out what has already been done and how we can advocate from there.***

Tasks:

- Jessica will communicate seminar date change with Jeff and Kathryn and will start contacting speakers for the seminar.
- John will contact Citizen's League or the Community First Public Safety Commission regarding a statement on working with the police department.
- Jessica will send out Rent Stabilization information
- Jessica will contact Emily about voter registration
- Jessica will be in contact with Kathryn and Mohit to figure out what has already been done for residents at Union Flats and what our next steps would be