

Advisory Team Meeting #3
October 14, 2020
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

(Recording provided for this section; available on the Policies and Practices Project web page)

Team Members Present

Steve Blaine, Juan DeLaFuente, Alexis DeVries, Michael Holmes, Sara Kern, Cory Koplín, Doug Larsen, Samantha Malcom, Liz Magill, Yadira Ramos, Cholwe Walker, Thomas Young

Team Members Absent

None

Facilitators

Dominique Johnson, Lead Facilitator from the Center for Policing Equity;
Michelle Leise, City of Red Wing Community Engagement Specialist & Secondary Facilitator

Meeting Notes

Welcome and Getting Grounded:

Definition of Ready (DOR): What makes our team ready to participate?

For tonight's meeting, the DOR is the following:

- Members have brought their maps and empty data grids to work on
- Members have looked over the roadmap and the tool kit documents (also on the web page)

Definition of Done (DOD): What is our measurement of success for this meeting?

For tonight's meeting the DOD is the following:

- The team has reviewed and finalized the goals and roles of the team and the police representatives.
- The team will understand the plans for the rest of 2020.

Dominique reminded everyone that emotion plays a part in moving us forward, but focusing on policies and practices is the core of the work. She also acknowledged how long this work takes so it's best to set expectations accordingly because change takes time.

Welcome from Mayor Dowse

Mayor Sean Dowse welcomed the team and said he applauded the work of the team in working to improve local government policies and practices. He explained that one of the police representatives on this project had offered his letter of resignation from the team and that fact was acknowledged at Monday's Council meeting. The mayor

expressed his strong support and the Council's support for the Advisory Team, the Policies and Practices project, and the work ahead.

The Policy and Practice Project's Goals and Key Partners' Roles

Where We're Headed: Our Roadmap for the Rest of 2020

Michelle and Dominique showed a power point that reviewed the overall goals, work, and process for the project, including an outline for the rest of 2020. (Presentation is on the web page).

Dominique mentioned at the end of the presentation that one facet of the team's work will be how policies are written in Red Wing. The team will learn about different options in an upcoming meeting, with input from the police, so the team could find consensus on how policies are written in Red Wing in the future.

The team and Chief Pohlman discussed concerns about the resignation of the police officer.

Red Wing Demographics

Michelle shared slides that shared the 2019 demographics. (Presentation is on the web page.) Data is important because we measure what matters. Data shows where issues and disparities are so the City and residents can put time, money, and energy toward those areas.

Understanding Definitions for Service Calls and Calls for Service Mapping Activity

The team reviewed the first step of the Roadmap for Exploring New Models of Funding Public Safety: Finding out what services might replace or assist law enforcement in some capacity. Why are we looking at this? What do we hope to accomplish?

- To take some burden off the shoulders of police so they are allowed the time and energy to do their most important work.
- To allow other community experts to play a role so the end service is better.
- To better serve community members in their time of need.

The team is starting this process by looking at data – data our local police department collects into what calls they receive from the public for service. Chief Pohlman gave a definition of three specific calls for service:

- Domestic call
- Sexual Assault call
- Mental Illness call

The team also filled out their data grid with numbers the Police Department has collected over the last four years. The numbers reflected the total number of calls over from 2016 through 2019 and the number of calls in 2019 per geographic area on the police beat map. (This data is also available on the Police Department's web page.)

The team discussed their impressions of these numbers.

Some members were interested in how the map was created originally and how the different “neighborhood beats” were decided. Michelle said she would find out the percentage of the population that each area represents.

The team discussed for a short time two of the calls:

Sexual Assault:

Question: When is the advocate currently brought in during sexual assault calls?

Chief Pohlman said police call the advocate after the initial contact is made so the police understands what level of sexual assault they’re dealing with.

Team member Sara Kern explained that she is an expert in the area of sexual assault through her position with HOPE Coalition and said she would like to bring that data and her ideas of optional models that use collaboration to better help people in Red Wing

(Questions and follow-up about this topic are listed in the next section, below.)

Mental Illness:

Question: Are there advocates that currently are brought in during mental illness calls?

Officer Cory Huberty said he would be willing to listen to other ways the community could assist the police with mental illness calls.

It was mentioned that Goodhue County Mental Health is a good resource that could be utilized more. There is a lack of mental health resources in our area, but there are also resources available that many people don’t know about and we aren’t tapping into.

Many calls come during weekends and after hours.

(Questions and follow-up about this topic are listed in the next section, below.)

What Do We Still Want to Know?

Throughout the meeting, these issues were brought up and the team would like to do the following:

--Gain better understanding of how calls are labeled, defined, and categorized.

For example, the team learned that a call for service is categorized based on how the call initially came to dispatch, but the call-for-service data does not reflect additional crimes that were committed as part of that call. (i.e. An initial call reporting sexual assault that might also end up in domestic violence or fleeing an officer is only reported under “sexual assault” and not the other two crimes.)

--Learn nuances in how the data is recorded – and how that reflects how the data could be understood (or misunderstood)

For example, the team learned that calls that come under sexual assault may be for an experience that happened on that day or from multiple years ago. They learned the majority of sexual assault calls involve minors but that information isn't listed with the data. The numbers may include repeat offenders. And, some calls to the police come in from different places (i.e. a person's home, the hospital, etc.)

-- What does the state control and what does our city control regarding what and how our local data is recorded and shared?

--Understand better how advocates from different organizations are currently involved and when during each process.

--Learn about other optional programs or systems that have found success in other towns and cities that Red Wing could think about.

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 28 at 6 p.m.