

The City of Saratoga Springs

Restorative Justice Panel meeting 11/29/2023

Panel members present: Camille Daniels, Heather Williams, Holly Hammond, Larry Jorgensen

Panel members absent: Daniel Mullan, Will Borchers, Heather Reynolds, Kendall Hicks

Staff members present: Tony Izzo City Attorney, Jessie House Communications Coordinator

Heather Williams welcomes the group

No vote from City Council at November 21 City Council meeting, wasn't on agenda

Camille speaks on 4a (Book Report) on agenda and 3a about if the meetings should pause until consultants are on board

Holly asks if there is a need for a comprehensive book report, need to extend the deadline, looking for more public input

Camille asks how they would get the public input

Larry brings up his thoughts on the book report, harm that needs to be restored. Do we think the real effort should be focused on the 50pt plan or try to take on other issues?

Community member speaks on economics and home ownership

Holly speaks on implementing 50 points and integrating/establishing restorative justice practices, cultural shift

Camille feels restorative justice doesn't need to be extremely structured? It can take many forms? Feels the consultants mapped out a plan that includes 50pt plan and extends it to other facets of implementing restorative justice

Larry clarifies his earlier question

Heather W speaks on consultants plan for Saratoga Springs restorative justice, eb and flow, weaving together of the existing 50pts and the consultants plan

Larry feels when some people speak on restorative justice they focus on Public Safety, hopes the implementation will be more than just Public Safety/law enforcement

Camille explains a survey might be something they want to do, not sure if they've had enough community participation

Community member asks if consultants would help with the aspect of promoting the meetings, community member involvement, suggestion to change the location of the meetings

Discussion ensues on how to get the word out and to get a grasp on how/what the City residents know about Restorative Justice

Camille asks that based on the meetings/correspondence between attendees through the past couple months can we come up with some themes to promote?

Tony adds his thoughts on the issue of getting more people aware/involved. Prior committees reached out to City organizations, schools, etc scheduled meetings to speak on what they're doing and have done.

Jessie House offers that a Google Form/survey can be sent out on City socials/City website for people to fill out and answer that question

Holly mentions a logo or graphic to grab peoples attention

Larry voices a concern on what people might already think of restorative justice and what comes up on google when searching it, without defining it we're open to a lot of different variations while we might already have an idea

Camille adds that the "survey" can provide background on restorative justice to somewhat lead people in the right direction. Link to resolution, reinvention plan, consultants plan? Can draw attention to specific examples. Background, education, information available to people, examples, common themes in-person? What are the questions going to be if its more than the one? Email on survey?

Community member offers that maybe there should be options of what restorative justice is in the survey such as a multiple choice question

Heather W speaks on there is so much on restorative justice but food for thought could be nice in the survey

Larry explains if certain options or themes are available we could predetermine the answers and not get a wide range of opinions about restorative justice

Holly reminds of promotion and social media, how to grab someone's attention

Heather W asks if there are other questions, we should add on the survey, what we can agree again

Will ask other panel members, attendees what they might want to include on the survey

Camille feels they have enough to bring to other members and a survey can be created? How are we going to send the survey out?

Holly questions should the survey be sent out before Dec 13? Will there be an extension? Should it be an ongoing survey?

Conversation about whether or not there will be a meeting after the Dec 13 RJP meeting. "Book Report," due on Dec 19.

Camille and Heather adjourn the meeting

