



Community Safety & Social Justice Committee Agenda

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

At 6:00 pm via Zoom

<https://amherstma.zoom.us/j/84898375188>

Or join by phone: 386-347-5053 or 408-638-0968

Webinar ID: 848 9837 5188

Members Present: Allegra Clark, Dr. Dee Shabazz, Mss. Pat Ononibaku, Philip Avila, Dr. Freke Ette, Debora Ferreira.

Others Present: Pat DeAngelis, Town Councilor, Jennifer Moyston, Staff liaison

1. Call to Order: 6:01 pm

Welcome, Announcements, Agenda Review, and Approval of 8/23/2022 Meeting Minutes
Tabled till 9/28/2022

2. Public Comment:

3. Member Reports: Allegra sent a follow up email to Town Council and Lynn Griesemer and Vice President

Debora that was one of the things I did not see on the agenda. Are we going to be discussing any of this at this meeting.

Allegra: We decided to meet over the next few months bi-weekly and we will speak more about the July 5th incident at the next meeting.

Dr. Shabazz shared the email that was sent to the Council President and Vice President.

Pat De Angelis asked to have the email sent to her and stated that she will follow up at the council meeting on Monday September 12th.

Ms. Pat Announced that the Amherst 9 will write a statement of events that occurred on July 5th.

Debora is hoping that there is intensive outreach particularly to those who English is their second language.

Housing trust is having a forum next Tuesday 9/13/2022. There are two locations and Wayfinders will be there.

CRESS is officially on the ground. Concerns from the group about CRESS not responding to noise complaints

DEI and CRESS should communicate or keep in contact with us outside of the

4. **Action and Discussion Items:**

a. ARPA Funds

Should be put on hold till there is a more equitable way to distribute. Who did the funds go to and even though there was some outreach. The outreach is flawed what happen to mailings and flyers business to business. We need to follow the money this is not equity.

Need an adequate survey of Businesses in Town BIPOC and other marginalized community members need to be identified. We need to know who received the funds and how much they received. How can DEI make the business sector more friendly and keep businesses to date with information.

There needs to be an audit of the ARPA distribution. Who received the funds, how much they received, and who was denied.

Next steps: Focus in on what the next steps are: How much money is left and what is the money for and who will receive it. What is the plan for the remaining money.

- i. CDBG-Potential Source of funding for: Doesn't see that this is in the groups purview so we should not be applying for grants and finding funds for projects. WE would like to propose that DEI complete the application process and that we ask that the Town.

DEI Department – Fund an Assistant

- ii. Youth and BIPOC Centers – These items have been spoken about regarding funding through CSWG recommendations. Re-imagine what Emergency services look like. Emergencies are not limited to housing. fund a grant writer for grants
 - iii.
 - iv. Translation Services
 - v. Other Services (workshops that pertain to know your rights.)
- b. Victim Compensation Fund: The kids and their family are suffering from this incident. They are scared and having nightmares. Looking over their shoulders we need to compensate them. They need therapist that are not chosen by the Town. Dr. Shabazz read a statement from the parents of the children that were involved in the July 5th incident.

5. **Upcoming Agenda Items & Meeting Schedules:**

6. Other Topics:

Other topics the Chair did not reasonably anticipate 48 hours in advance of the meeting

7. Adjourn:

***Public Comment:** During the public comment period, the Chair will recognize members of the public. When called on, please identify yourself by stating your full name, preferred pronouns, and residential address. Residents are welcome to express their views for up to 3 minutes, at the discretion of the Chair based upon the number of people who wish to speak; no speaker can cede their time to another speaker. The CSSJC will not engage in a dialogue or comment on a matter raised during Public Comment.

To join the CSSJC meeting via Zoom teleconferencing

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To indicate you wish to make a comment click “raise hand” To join the CSSJC meeting via telephone: Call Enter webinar ID when prompted: When prompted to enter your participant number press # To indicate you wish to make a comment, press *9 on your telephone.