



PUBLIC SAFETY CITIZEN TASK FORCE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

5:00 p.m.

Santa Cruz Civic Center Tony Hill Room
307 Church Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MINUTES

- I. Vice Chair Howes Call to Order
 1. Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Vice Chair Howes.
 2. Sixth meeting of the deliberative/legislative process.

- II. Opening Discussion and Approving the Minutes for November 12, 2013
 1. Mayor Bryant thanked the TF members for their hard work throughout the process.
 2. A motion to approve the November 12, 2013 minutes is made.
 3. A concern over the number of amendments referenced in the document is made.
 4. For Item 26, number 10, make sure the meaning of the term “unanimously” is clarified.
 5. Some modifications will be made to the minutes; however, the motion passes with one abstention.
 6. Discussions around the communication plan are not the immediate priority of the night. Consider waiting until later in the evening when the more important issues have been discussed.
 7. This meeting will include a review of the executive summary in addition to the recommendation document.
 8. After deliberations of these two documents, the TF will vote to adopt the recommendation in its entirety. Once the report has been adopted, there will be no later edits or amendments. After this, the communication plan will be briefly discussed and then the TF may depart.
 9. All of the TF should be present in the audience for the City Council meeting on Tuesday December 3, 2013.
 10. As the TF goes through this final process together, think about our community. This has likely been the most important citizen led initiative since Vision Santa Cruz after the earthquake.
 11. It has been a great experience to be a part of this with all of the members.
 12. Voting to accept or deny the document is the prerogative of the individual. However, voting to reject the document raises a very serious issue.
 13. The TF wants to send a powerful statement to the community and its leaders. The most powerful statement to make is for the TF to vote unanimously to adopt the report.

14. There may not be an agreement on every single word or aspect of the final recommendation, but overall, hopefully the TF agrees on the document as a whole.

III. Opening Discussion and Deliberation Regarding the Executive Summary

1. A motion is made to adopt the executive summary as a whole. This is a revised version proposed by one of the TF members. It will be referred to as TFM's (Task Force Member's) Executive Summary.
2. The report reflects the overall consensus of the TF. It is important that a strong message is sent to the Council and the public. The executive summary does that through direct, specific and strong language.
3. TFM's Version of the executive summary was much better than the first draft. The TF should review the revised summary in depth.

IV. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 6-10

1. Consider deleting the language regarding the two faces in the opening sentence. Replace with the language "Santa Cruz is a community of limitless beauty and opportunity," as the opener for the executive summary.
2. The executive summary may be the only document people read. Therefore, it should be very crisp and pertinent to what the TF has discussed. The language regarding the two faces seems atmospheric and irrelevant to public safety.
3. The original language is great. If this is going to be the only document people read, then it will be misleading to focus only on the positive aspects of the City. Stating that the City is fine does not speak to the TF's love for the City.
4. Perhaps another analogy would be more appropriate. However, the proposed replacement language works well. All of the language until line 29, besides the opening sentence, works well. It all represents what the TF has been presented.
5. Later on, "In contrast" may not be the best possible transition between the positive and negative paragraphs. There needs to be some sort of contrast besides the two face analogy.
6. A withdrawal of the motion is made. The new motion is to begin the paragraph with the words "Santa Cruz is a community..."
7. Question is called for.
8. The motion passes.

V. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 12-16

1. A call to question is made.
2. The motion carries unanimously.

VI. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 18-23

1. A call to question is made.
2. The motion carries unanimously.

VII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 25-29

1. For lines 27-29, consider the language "However, the fabric of Santa Cruz also contains different and troubling threads that impact our community."
2. This change is in spirit with the removal of the faces analogy.

3. The motion carries unanimously.

VIII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 31-44

1. Due to previous changes, the paragraph should begin with "Unfortunately, the..." and insert "also" before the language "...home to metropolis..."
2. Instead of the term "Unfortunately" consider "In contrast..."
3. The friendly amendment is accepted.
4. Is there data to support the statement regarding inner-city property crime rates?
5. Yes there is.
6. Can a footnote be provided for this data?
7. Yes.
8. On line 37, replace the term "dominates" with "impacts."
9. The language "In contrast..." does not make sense. Replace the language with the term, "The..."
10. This friendly amendment is accepted.
11. Replace the language, on line 40, that begins with "Santa Cruz..." with "When compared with other cities in California, the City of Santa Cruz has one of the highest per capita percentages of people who are experiencing homelessness."
12. This friendly amendment is accepted.
13. On line 44, replace the language "suffer from" with "have."
14. Objection. The rest of the sentence is discussing symptoms. This language revolves around medical model language and describes how these challenges are sufferings under symptoms.
15. The term "suffer" is very important and accurate. Those who treat addictions understand the term "suffer." Opposition to the substitute term "have" is expressed.
16. On line 44, strike the term "dysfunctional."
17. No objection is expressed and this term is struck.
18. Remove the amendment to line 44 regarding the substitute term "have."
19. Consider removing the term "crippling."
20. Objection.
21. Using the term crippling seems to be redundant.
22. There are many adjectives in this document that seem unnecessary and "crippling" is one of them. Addiction is crippling itself.
23. "Dysfunctional" is a legitimate use of the term and is not unnecessary.
24. The motion fails, the term "crippling" remains in the document.
25. On line 42, include the term "severe" before "addiction."
26. Objection.
27. The motion goes to a vote, however, if there is another motion like this it may be considered dilatory.
28. If the motion carries, it will strike the term "crippling" and replace it with "severe."
29. The motion fails.

IX. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 47-51

1. In lines 48-51, consider adding a footnote on this information. It would help to provide proof for it.
2. This can be done.
3. This language enforces and confirms some of the TF's recommendations.
4. Without objection, a footnote will be added.

5. A concern over the language "...many cities and counties," is made. Include a footnote for this information also.
 6. Strike the word "many" and replace with "some."
 7. This is accepted without objection.
 8. The motion carries.
- X. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 58 and 59
1. On the screen, line 58, clear "it" and replace with "the City..."
 2. On line 59, consider replacing the term "collaboration" with "coordinated systems." On the next line, replace "...is partly to blame..." with "contributes to..." Also, strike the term "for" after that.
 3. These additions seem to slow down the pace of the language.
 4. Blame language should not be used in the document. It can disrupt the possibility to work with other entities. How will others work with the TF if someone is being constantly blamed?
 5. One major issue with institutions as they grow, especially if they are governmental institutions, is that no one places the blame on someone. The challenges facing Santa Cruz are the source of some people and some institutions' decisions. Placing blame on individuals or institutions sets the stage for improved accountability.
 6. What are "coordinated systems?" This is not a simple description to use. If the TF is concerned this is the only document most people will read, more accessible language should be used.
 7. A lack of collaboration does exist and it is a major part of the City's problems. There is also a lack of coordinated systems that are not efficiently working together. Both points of view are critical.
 8. Use the language "Lack of collaboration and systems' coordination as well as a unified..."
 9. This friendly amendment is accepted.
 10. Systems coordination between courts and probation as well as mental health and health services are not interfaced very well.
 11. It is unclear if "coordinated systems" is a proper term to use with the general public. Consider using language that explains how agencies are working.
 12. Consider the substitute language "interagency collaboration."
 13. This friendly amendment is accepted.
 14. The term "blame" is important. The City has failed working within itself. Blame is strong language and it incorporates what much of the recommendations address.
 15. It is not apparent that it is the role of the TF members to understand exactly who is to blame. It is more so the TF's role to understand core issues of public safety. Consider using the word "contribute." The tone of the document needs to be strong, but it also needs to ensure that it inspires collaboration. It does not seem that blame will invoke that.
 16. The TF spent six months learning where the problems existed in the systems. Recommendations were made based on where these problems existed. Due to this, blame is a perfectly acceptable term to use. The TF has addressed government failings and has even faced considering recalling judges. It is an opportunity to make a strong statement.
 17. If the motion passes, "contributes to" will substitute "is partly to blame for..."
 18. The motion fails.

XI. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 60-65

1. A motion is made to consider adding a sentence at the end of line 63, which ends with "public health concerns." Insert "Others believe this is a lack of resources for programs to treat addiction, provide affordable housing or reduce poverty that are major contributors to these concerns." This motion is seconded.
2. A friendly amendment is made to substitute the term "resources" for "funding."
3. The friendly amendment is accepted.
4. There is objection to the language.
5. This language may find a better home in another paragraph. Santa Cruz's challenges have evolved over the years. Throughout this time, tolerance has been an overarching value of the community. Recently, citizens have begun saying that blind tolerance is causing problems. Circumstances in the City have changed and that needs to be addressed. This sentence takes the entire paragraph in an entirely different direction. Tolerance is seen as a way to give way to more concerns about public safety.
6. The sentence belongs elsewhere. It creates a false dichotomy. It is confusing and should be removed.
7. The language "blind tolerance" is not clear. Not everybody believes that blind tolerance is the cause, however, there are many in the community who believe this. Adding this sentence balances two different viewpoints.
8. A disagreement with the previous statement is expressed. It takes away from the paragraph. It belongs somewhere else.
9. Perhaps the sentence belongs in the summary.
10. The beginning of the paragraph leads towards community discourse. The discourse of tolerance in compassion is flawed.
11. It is still unclear what blind tolerance is.
12. Naïve may be a better way of explaining blind tolerance. Blind tolerance is mistaking tolerance for alternative lifestyles with tolerance of criminals. Consider the language, "There is widespread belief that funding for programs to treat addiction, provide affordable housing, reduce poverty and improve public safety." Remove that section from later in the sentence.
13. After the term "years," insert the language "Historically, there has been widespread belief that funding programs to treat addiction, provide affordable housing and reduce poverty can improve public safety. However, tolerance, which has long been an overarching value of the community, has evolved. Many now believe blind tolerance to be another cause of the City's current safety concerns, especially around drug addiction, related crime, and public health concerns. Recent community discussions are focused on balancing tolerance and compassion with accountability."
14. Is this paragraph necessary? Tolerance is subjective. Is there a more concise way to pull together the two previous paragraphs when it is subjective?
15. A lot of the TF's discussions have been around tolerance and how it has evolved. This seems to be a very important paragraph.
16. This paragraph in its entirety is very problematic. A challenge with supporting the paragraph is expressed. It seems that there is still belief that these things can improve public safety. The fact that there was an issue over describing blind tolerance is concerning. There should not be language in this report that the TF itself is not even sure on.
17. Consider removing the language blind tolerance and say "tolerance without accountability."
18. Views on tolerance have changed, not tolerance itself.

19. The term “historically” also does not seem appropriate.
20. Alternative language includes “Community discourse over Santa Cruz’s public safety challenges has evolved over the years. There is widespread support for the funding of programs that improve public safety by treating addiction, providing affordable housing and reducing poverty. However, views on tolerance, which has long been an overarching value of the community, have evolved. Many now believe tolerance without accountability to be another cause of the City’s current safety concerns. Recent community discussions are focused on balancing tolerance and compassion with accountability.”
21. The language is accepted.
22. The motion carries unanimously.

XII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM’s Executive Summary Lines 67-75

1. On line 69, substitute the language “...Public Safety Citizen Task Force to grapple with the ‘deep-rooted issues affecting our public safety,” for “...Public Safety Citizen Task Force to grapple intimately with the different themes of collaboration, tolerance, compassion and accountability.”
2. On line 78 (on the screen), replace the number 14 with 15.
3. On line 78 (on the screen) strike the language “armed with” and replace with “bringing...”
4. A call to question is made.
5. On line 79, substitute “purpose” for “vision.”
6. The motion carries.

XIII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM’s Executive Summary Lines 77-87

1. Consider changing document as a whole.
2. The TF needs to pick up the pace. This needs to be finished tonight.
3. A call to question has been made.
4. The motion passes with three no votes.

XIV. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM’s Executive Summary Lines 89-96

1. Lines 89-90 need clarification.
2. Consider the term “lures” as a substitute to “involvement.”
3. This friendly amendment is accepted.
4. What is the connection between the first two sentences and the lines from 89 through the end? Strike the first sentence. This motion is seconded.
5. This section is addressing many topics and is one of the biggest recommendations. It should not be removed.
6. On line 90, insert the term “additionally” before “The City’s open spaces...”
7. The friendly amendment is accepted.
8. The motion carries unanimously.

XV. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM’s Executive Summary Lines 98-107

1. Under line 99, “Santa Cruz Police Department is understaffed...” change the language “...not primarily focused...” to “is unable...”
2. This is a serious issue.
3. The language is something that is not agreeable. The following language should be considered “is thus unable to focus on...”

4. The language "...community policing and directed enforcement as well as..." should be inserted after "unable to focus on..."
5. There are many things that should be inserted here that did not make it. Community policing is a very enticing idea, however, it is not a priority. Also, the SCPD should not be let off of the hook by saying that their only issue is that they have not done their work properly.
6. A call to question is made.
7. The motion passes.

XVI. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 109-116

1. A concern over the inclusion of alcohol outlets is expressed.
2. A definition for alcohol outlets can be included. This has been discussed in previous meetings.
3. Where is the issue of marijuana grows on the high priority list?
4. It is on the eighth page of the recommendations chapter. It begins at the bottom of page seven, line 205.
5. Without objection, the section is adopted.

XVII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 118-129

1. On line 122, replace the term "required" with "proposed."
2. Objection.
3. On lines 123-124, include the term "veterans" before "substance abusers..."
4. A friendly amendment is made to replace the word "required" with "necessary."
5. On line 118-119, remove the language "...an intense..."
6. Objection.
7. There is no reason to use such dramatic language. The facts can be stated without using such language.
8. The issue is intense. Perhaps an even more appropriate term would be "monumental." A lot of resources are expended addressing this issue.
9. Remove the term "intense" and replace with "ongoing."
10. A footnote is needed on line 119 in regards to the excessive number of citations.
11. The motion carries unanimously.

XVIII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 133-137

1. Without objection, these lines are adopted.

XIX. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 139-149

1. This language has already been voted on. It should not be voted on again.
2. Without objection, the language is adopted as it appears.

XX. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM's Executive Summary Lines 151-156

1. On line 153, the term "Further" should be added.
2. This friendly amendment is accepted.
3. Reword lines 152-153 to read "The Task Force recommends that the City communicate with each jurisdiction named in the report and ask that they be responsive in writing to the recommendations that impact their operations."
4. "Replace the term "expects" with "asks."

5. This friendly amendment is accepted.
6. Consider the term “strongly” before “recommends.”
7. The motion carries unanimously.

XXI. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for TFM’s Executive Summary Lines 158-169

1. Suggest striking the second sentence and change the first sentence to “Santa Cruz’s public safety problems are complex, but can be solved.”
2. In terms of consistency, collaboration has previously been discussed. Use the term “interagency” before “collaborative strategies among the City...”
3. This friendly amendment is accepted.
4. Include the language “Multiple factors including substance abuse, community tolerance and lack of interagency collaborative strategies among the City, County and Court system has led to a serious public safety problem within the City.”
5. Consider placing “misguided” in front of “...community tolerance...”
6. Replace that language with “tolerance without accountability...” and make sure the number 15 is changed to 14.
7. On line 189 (on the screen) omit “ignited behind” and replace with “ready for...” Otherwise that is inflammatory.
8. This is not inflammatory; it is positive and intended to incite excitement.
9. Currently, the motion includes all previously discussed language except the concern over “ignited behind...”
10. The motion carries unanimously.
11. On line 189, choose between “ready for” and “ignited behind.” The motion would approve the “ready for” language.
12. The motion fails.
13. The motion’s language now includes “ignited behind.”
14. The motion is to accept “ignited behind.”
15. The motion carries.
16. Further existing language carries.

XXII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for Policy Recommendation Document Overview

1. What is being said here?
2. This document represents what has already been done. This is an opportunity for minor edits. This is the result of lengthy deliberation.
3. Focus just on the language in yellow.

XXIII. Discussion, Deliberation and the Legislative Phase for Policy Recommendation Document Page 1

1. On line 24, consider the following language “Follow the same procedure until each recommendation was adopted...”
2. Replace “adopted” with “voted on.”
3. Add the language, “voted and adopted.”
4. No objection.
5. At the end of this yellow section, consider adding a line that says “Recommendations” and a bullet underneath that states “These recommendations came from a variety of sources – experts, community members and TF members. Every recommendation presented was considered by the TF.”
6. On line 150, include the language “...and enhancements for social service.” Also, strike the rest of the language after “...education and neighborhood connection...”

7. The TF considered all of the recommendations, but as a body, the TF did not vet every recommendation. The Council will have to vet these recommendations on a later time.
8. Based on the fact that the TF found the need for more interagency collaboration, not all of these recommendations were vetted.
9. The use of the term vetted needs clarification.
10. In this section, include that the TF did not have all of the information. It made the best decisions possible based on the resources at hand.
11. This addresses that the TF did not have the full report on the needle exchange and other things. This should be reflected.
12. This information should be inherent. There will never be full access to all of the information.
13. Some of the information ages and is cut both ways.
14. Recommendations were based off of what was known at the time.
15. Include the language “Every recommendation presented was considered by the TF. The TF was provided with substantial data, material and testimony and it is on the basis that the TF makes these recommendations.”
16. A concern over these changes is expressed. They should be technical and it was approved a week ago.
17. This sentence will be adopted without objection.
18. On page five, consider writing out the names of programs, organizations, etc. instead of using their acronyms.
19. There is no objection, and that will be applied to the entire document.
20. Additional language is accepted in lines 289-294.
21. On line 240, address a direction provided by staff.
22. On line 248, make sure that “veterans” are included.
23. A motion is made for adopting policy recommendations. It is seconded.
24. The motion passes unanimously.

XXIV. Discussion by Chair Reyes

1. The TF must now address adopting everything.
2. In the introduction document, there is some sensitive information that should be removed. Anything potentially incriminating will be removed.
3. A motion is made to adopt the document in its entirety.
4. A request that the final vote is a roll call vote is made. There are rules on abstention; this vote must be a yes or a no vote.
5. A motion is made to include the language “Move that the Public Safety Citizen Task Force approve the final report and all related documents, and in so doing we have proudly and respectfully completed the task for which we were created, that being to, “clearly define the underlying safety issues facing the City of Santa Cruz and present their findings and recommendations to the City Council.”
6. The quote comes from the Council Report that created the TF.
7. The motion is made and seconded.
8. A concern over the word “approve” is made. It implies that the document in its entirety is approved. Consider the term “submit.”
9. Wordsmithing in this instance is not appropriate.
10. A caucus is called.
11. The language of the motion has now changed to “Move that on November 20, 2013, the Public Safety Citizen Task Force (Task Force) adopted by unanimous vote the following documents; 1) Executive Summary; 2) Background Report; and 3) Policy Recommendations. By so doing, we have respectfully completed the task for which we were created, that being to “clearly define the underlying

safety issues facing the City of Santa Cruz and present their findings and recommendations to the City Council.” The Task Force hereby transmits such documents to the City Council for their consideration.”

12. Attached to the policy recommendations includes the whole appendices, etc.
13. The motion carries unanimously.

XXV. Discussion Regarding the Communication Plan

1. The TF should maintain a common theme when addressing the media. Do not be afraid to be blunt.
2. Do not turn towards opinion. If this is done, it will be egregious towards the TF. Negativity will easily be manipulated to reflect poorly upon the TF and the City.
3. The fact that the TF unanimously adopted this document is a bold statement.
4. There is not any language in regards to the translation or outreach to the Latino community. There should be a minimum of a translation of the report into Spanish.
5. This will be done, as well as dissemination and distribution to the Latino community.
6. Individuals can always ask to see what is going to be used in regard to quotes before the article is published.
7. If an opinion is going to be stated, make sure it is made obvious that it is the individual’s opinion.
8. Without objection the language will be adopted.

Adjournment -- The Public Safety Citizen Task Force adjourned from the public meeting of November 20, 2013 at 9:30 p.m. This was the final meeting for the Public Safety Citizen Task Force. The Report will be addressed at the December 3, 2013 City Council meeting.

The City of Santa Cruz does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. Out of consideration for people with chemical sensitivities, we ask that you attend fragrance free. Upon request, the agenda can be provided in a format to accommodate special needs. Additionally, if you wish to attend this public meeting and will require assistance such as an interpreter for American Sign Language, Spanish, or other special equipment, please call the City Clerk’s Department at 420-5030 in advance so that we can arrange for such special assistance. The Cal-Relay system number: 1-800-735-2922.

Public Safety Task Force meetings will be recorded for the purpose of preparing minutes.