

Village of Brockport Advisory Committee on Police Reform and Reinvention

Meeting Minutes January 13, 2021

The meeting was held by Zoom

Attending:

Co-Chair Mayor Margay Blackman, Co-Chair Trustee Annie Crane, Chief Mark Cuzzupoli, Village Clerk/Manager Erica Linden, Lt. Steve Mesiti, Monroe County Legislator Jackie Smith, Karen LoBracco, Dan Brockway, Bill Plews, Robert LeSuer, Melanie McDonald, Orlando Benzan, Howard Ward

Absent: Katy Wilson

Co-chair Annie Crane ran the meeting, beginning with 10 minutes for discussion/remarks on the January 6th riots and storming of the US Capitol Building.

The remainder of the meeting was divided between two topics: 1. the results of the Community survey on Brockport Police and 2. discussion of the final report and its organization.

Bob had done a preliminary analysis of the survey, which was answered by 299 people. He compiled his analysis into a PowerPoint that he shared.

The slides began with a Word Cloud superimposed on an outline map of Brockport. [a word cloud is a grouping of words in different sizes. The bigger and bolder the word the more often it's mentioned in the referenced document] This one was pulled from Q14 where we asked for further comments.

Assessment of validity of survey. Margin of error is 6%. Due to fewer Latinx compared to Brockport's population, underpolling of younger residents, over representation of those with more education, over representation of females (60% to 37% males)

- View of Brockport police among respondents is overall favorable. Females have slightly less favorable view than males, but still overall favorable.
- 10 questions deal with residents' perception of the BPD. Community policing and perceived safety have the greatest impact on favorability, The National conversation about police doesn't impact perceptions of the Brockport police.
- Little evidence that respondents want major changes to the BPD (Q 13, canned options and Q14, additional suggestions)
- In identifying low favorability, place of residence should be factored in.
- 278 unique IP addresses in the survey
- Most interactions with the police are casual or in the community
- Many respondents have not used police services
- Most survey respondents have lived in the greater Brockport area for more than 8 years (Q16)

TAKEAWAYS FROM SURVEY TO INCLUDE IN REPORT

- Survey does not capture important populations (young, minorities), over represents others (women, highly educated)
- Survey respondents view of the police is generally favorable
- Recognition of the difference between the local police department and what's going on nationally.
- High school and college student guests at PAB meetings, on the other hand, were heavily influenced by the national scene.
- Community policing is important and Brockport could do more
- BPD could improve response times and treatment of minorities (report should show actual response times which are very good)
- Minority pool is too small for meaningful analysis
- The analysis of the short answer comments suggests that we obtained responses from across the political spectrum
- coding is possible with the data set

DISCUSSION OF REPORT

Annie has compiled (in a rainbow of colors to identify individual committee members) everyone's suggestions/comments about the report. She shared it with Erica and Margay and will distribute it to the rest of the committee.

Annie reviewed the draft basic outline suggested for the report. Comments included:

- Audiences for the report: BPD, Village of Brockport, NYS
- Committee members agreed that draft of report should go to BPD for review before going to the public
- A section of the report itself should be devoted to feedback from the BPD
- The report should note that we cannot characterize in a few pages or through 6 months of biweekly meetings the full activities, expertise, training of our police department
- Brief discussion about a citizen committee working with the police going forward. Mark said he would be interested in doing a variation of the Citizens Police Academy

Agreed that for next meeting (1/20/21) committee members would review the document Annie is sending, and be prepared to discuss the organization and content of the report.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm