

12/20/18

Meeting was called to order at 6:30.

Commissioner Natalie Sheppard started meeting off by going over mission statement and also went over timeline of events. Councilman Lightfoot along with executive committee will meet with the mayor on January 29, 2019; at City Hall at 4:00p.m.. The advocacy committee will be out recruiting to help build coalition. They also will be doing research to identify gun laws that exist and that would benefit our community. The Education Committee will be search for grant opportunities and also develop a curriculum and make presentation. Committee will also check with Pathways to Peace for data for past five years to see what is working and not working for their organization. The eradication committee will create a gun violence program. They will also develop a court watch for gun arrest that could be managed by NSC. Also would like develop a gun amnesty program going into neighborhoods impacted by gun violence and coordinating with City/County elected officials and law Enforcements. The committee will also make legislative changes to county pistol permit. The media committee will sound the alarm about gun violence. Push the think about it campaign and how it needs to be further defined. The committee will also define promotion strategies and how to market to others.

With a spike in homicides Pathways to Peace did a two day community forum. It went very well.

Moving forward in 2019 from the committee work, we needed to select priority goals; these goals would formulate our action plan and our Strategy. The goal is select priorities that would help us educate our youth, teachers, and community; that provided citizens a voice to advocate for the safety of the neighborhoods; and that utilized all the tools at our disposal to Eradicate gun violence. Some of our priorities are to increase Pathways to Peace Staff. Pathways is the most effective tool we have in responding to gun involved incident. Increasing staff would allow for more community contacts and additional mediations services to be provided. The committee will also identify and support gun laws. We will work to support common sense gun legislation like the Safe Gun Storage Bill. We will also support creation of new legislation. The committee will also change policy to treat all shooting incidents like a homicide in RPD response. We believe that conducting a response team to a non-fatal shooting on the scale of a homicide investigation will decrease gun violence. We also believe it will decrease retaliatory incidents and increase arrest rates. We will create a coordinated response team that will work with RPD and RIT to use data related to response efforts to create a coordinated response to any shooting incident .This will involve a team that included community partners. The committee will also establish a mobile trauma response unit. The unit will include be placed at the scene of a violent crime for up for a week after incident and hopefully decrease retaliation. The unit will include grief counselors and outreach workers to provide services to those who have experienced trauma. We will see if we can use forfeit fund to purchase vehicles for trauma response team. The committee will start meeting quarterly: February, May, August.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wanda Ridgeway