

**Advisory Group for Obama's Pledge
(AGOP)
Minutes of the 1/31/2021 Meeting**

Members present: Erga Pierrette, Birukti Tsige, Karen Hayes, Isadel Eddy, Carey McDonald, Darren Josey, Ben Hartzell, Jay Bhimani, Kelli Collomb and Yusin Mok.

Also Present: Councillors Steve Winslow and Amanda Linehan and Maria Luise (Mayor's Office).

Minutes of the January 13, 2021 Meeting

There were no changes or additions to the minutes of the January 13th meeting, and the minutes can be posted on the website.

Introduction and Online Form

Maria had previously drafted a proposed Introduction and a sample online form for everyone's review. The intro relays information about the group, the draft recommendations and how someone gets involved. It is divided into sections: "Get Informed," and "Get Involved."

Isadel made some suggestions and changes to the document and the group discussed those additions. There was also discussion about including demographic information. This would help ensure we are reaching different groups of people in the community. There could potentially be two sections: the first for the demographic information and the second would include the comments to the draft recommendations.

Carey added an introductory paragraph to the "Get Involved" portion of the introductory document. The links to the Use of Force Policy need to be added. This document will be translated on the website through Google Translation. It will include a direct link to the online form.

Birukti asked how we would be collecting data that doesn't come through the online form but perhaps through email. She suggested that with the link to the form we state that it is the "preferred" method to communicate.

A phone number will be added in the event there are questions, or someone wants to request a hard copy. The call will be answered by the main line through Constituents Services. Whoever is taking the calls will have to be trained about the survey, its contents, etc. maria will see about whether the message on the afterhours voicemail can include information.

We will need to print packages and the cost would come out of the Mayor's Office. The "package" for those that want hard copies would include the policy (in the appropriate language), summary and online form. Copies can be left in the lobby for anyone that prefers to pick it up. Some will also be left at MATV, if they are open.

Initially, there was discussion about including packages to distribute with the Library's curbside pick-up. However, that may be wasteful and a single page flyer with instructions maybe more efficient.

Councillor Winslow suggested utilizing QR codes for access to the form. Birukti mentioned that we can generate free QR code markers.

There was also discussion about including the QR code on sandwich boards around the City as one way to get the word out.

Meeting Minutes
January 31, 2021

Online Form:

Everyone agreed to add the demographics and it would be included as the first part of the actual form. Different groups have different experiences with policing. The responses will show us where we need to do more outreach.

It was agreed not to ask a person's ward. Also want to keep things simple.

Amanda had suggested including the option: "I own a business or property in Malden" which would be different than "work in Malden." It was agreed to add this to the form.

The form should include a brief introduction and a link to the AGOP summary. It was suggested that it be broken down into two sections with a brief intro at the beginning.

When introducing the demographic questions, there should be a restatement that the survey is anonymous.

It was also suggested to be more specific in asking for comments, i.e. "share your lived experiences," or "do you have any suggestions about the Use of Force Policy."

Community Meeting:

There was discussion about when it should be and the format. It will be on zoom with a presentation of the group's work and then time for public comment. We will need a planning meeting focusing just on the community forum.

Councillor Winslow explained how the translations worked at a recent meeting for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. We can get technical support from Ron Cochran.

The aim is for the second week in March (maybe the 10th). An MATV can be scheduled prior to launch the online form and forum date.

Maria will find out how long the translations will take and will revise form.

Next meeting is February 21st.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Maria Luise