

Restorative Justice Steering Committee

Monday, September 27, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Members	Present	Absent
Patrick Wojahn, City Mayor	X	
Monroe Dennis, Councilmember, District 2	X	
Maxine Gross, Chair	X	
Andrew Fellows, co-Chair	X	
Robert Thurston	X	
Violetta Jones	X	
Dr. Joseph Richardson		X
Staff and Others		
Tone Carter, Facilitator	X	
David Thornton, Staff Liaison	X	
Bill Gardiner, Asst. City Manager		X
Teresa Way-Pezzuti, HR Director	X	
Terry Schum, Director of Planning		X
Kenny Young, City Manager	X	
Carleveva Thompson, Contract Secretary	X	

I. Call to Order

Ms. Gross called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Old Business

II. Approval of August 23, 2021 meeting minutes

The Committee reviewed the August 23, 2021 meeting minutes.

Councilmember Dennis motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Ms. Gross. All members in favor; no opposed. Motion carries, 6-0-0.

New Business

III. Review Report on other Municipalities

The Committee discussed the report Mr. Thornton provided on other municipalities that started restorative justice commissions. Mayor Wojahn asked if there were lessons

learned from the other municipalities in regards to their experience with restorative justice. Mr. Thornton will provide that information at the next meeting.

A question was asked on the truth telling aspect that was used in other municipalities. Mr. Thornton stated the truth telling should be included to tell what happened and that there are enough Lakeland residents that are able to discuss what happened and how to restore Lakeland. Individuals that were directly impacted and also those that were affected by the urban renewal of Lakeland should be included in truth telling. Mr. Thornton explained that a safe space should be created to ensure individuals participating in truth telling are comfortable in sharing their experiences.

IV. Final Review of the Recommendations to the City Council

There was discussion that those identified as causing harm be included in the purpose as that information is currently listed in the scope. It was also suggested to include a timeline that provides when Lakeland was established, what happened during and after urban renewal and what is currently happening in Lakeland now.

The Committee discussed finalizing a document that includes recommendations on the restorative justice commission to the City Council. Mr. Carter will prepare a document with the recommendations to present to the City Council and the Committee will need to review and approve the final document before it is presented to the City Council. The Committee will provide a final report and presentation by early November.

V. Next Steps

The Committee will discuss next steps once the recommendations for the City Council are finalized.

VI. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled on October 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Mayor Wojahn motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second by Councilmember Dennis. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.