

HANOVER TOWNSHIP DIVERISTY AND ENGAGEMENT TASK FORCE
MINUTES of the MEETING
January 21, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Trustee Khaja Moinuddin at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Amin Haider, Grecia Tures, Syed Haq, Gupreet Singh, Trustee Martinez, and Trustee Moinuddin. Members Ray Alvarez and Jagan Bukkaraju joined the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and 7:23 p.m., respectively. Also, present Kristin Vana, Assistant Township Administrator; Hailey Matich, Administrative Assistant; Bill Wolf, Schaumburg Police Chief; Karen McCartney, Schaumburg Police Sergeant; and Kristin Jordan, Schaumburg Police Licensed Social Worker.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Haider, seconded by Mr. Haq. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comment: None

Presentation from Schaumburg Police Department: Chief Wolf began the presentation by giving a brief overview of the Schaumburg Police Department's duties and goals. Sergeant McCartney then provided an overview on the outreach and programming provided by the Schaumburg Police Department. Some outreach activities include the Trespass & Loitering Program, Neighborhood Watch, Crime Free Multi-Housing Program, Citizen Police Academy, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and station tours. The Schaumburg Police Department also opened a Teen Center with the Boys and Girls Club of Elgin in March 2020. Sergeant McCartney explained that outreach is often focused towards community groups, cultural and charitable organizations, houses of worship, senior facilities, schools, and special needs facilities to bring awareness to the services provided by the police department. Ms. Jordan continued the presentation, and explained that the Schaumburg Police Department prioritizes social work, and that the SPD was one of the first departments in Illinois to hire a licensed social worker. Ms. Jordan explained the common call outs they experience are related to mental health, youth disturbances, substance abuse, and domestic violence. Social workers also read through all police reports on a regular basis to follow up with any resident they believe may benefit from the social services they offer. She also explained that the SPD has been very innovative and forward thinking with social work, which has enabled them to provide a variety of victim services and financial assistance to their community. Chief Wolf, Sergeant McCartney, and Ms. Jordan all explained that their services have been greatly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and they are adjusting where necessary.

Mr. Haq asked the presenters to explain how the police department handles protests and civil unrest. Chief Wolf explained their department had been fortunate and have only experienced peaceful protests. However, the department does regularly monitor social media and works closely with State Police and the FBI to anticipate any potential threats.

Trustee Moinuddin asked if the Schaumburg Police Department have any mandates related to diversity. Chief Wolf explained that there are not specific metrics related to diversity that they are required to meet. However, Chief Wolf explained that they currently have a diverse group of officers and they maintain a goal to further diversify their force with each testing process.

Mr. Haider asked the presenter to discuss the recent campaigns calling to defund the police. Chief Wolf responded and explained that this is not quite possible, it is important that people have someone to call in times of emergency. Chief Wolf suggested a reallocation of funds to social worker and mental health providers would be more helpful.

Trustee Martinez asked if Schaumburg Police Department has training on cultural sensitivity? The presenters explained the Village of Schaumburg requires village-wide diversity and implicit bias training. Chief Wolf

explained he is also trained as an implicit bias trainer. Additionally, all officers are trained in crisis intervention.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2020: Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Alvarez, seconded by Mr. Bukkaraju.

Review and Discuss Schaumburg Police Department Presentation: All Task Force members expressed that they were impressed with all the services provided by the Schaumburg Police Department. Mr. Alvarez appreciated that complaints about police or the department were reviewed by a third party, separate from the Police Department. Ms. Singh was impressed by Neighbors Helping Neighbors, a program that allows residents to pay more than what is due on their water bill and the additional money would be put in a fund to pay the water bills that other residents could not afford. Several of the members expressed that they thought it was important that the implicit bias training was village wide.

Review and Discuss Previous Task Force Presentations and Upcoming Task Force Report: Assistant Administrator Vana asked all Task Force members to review the past presentation and begin preparing for the final Task Force Report.

Other Business: None

Adjournment: Mr. Alvarez moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Haq seconded the motion. Motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gurpreet Singh
Secretary