



SUPERIOR

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MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

Minutes

September 10, 2018

Present: Chair Kym Young, Natasha Lancour, Jerel Benton, Pat St. Germaine, Rani Gill

Excused: Stephan Witherspoon

Also Present: Police Chief Nick Alexander

1. Chair Young opened the meeting at 4:10 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes of June 11th Meeting.

Motion by Benton, seconded by Lancour to approve the Minutes of June 11th meeting.
Motion passed.

Summary of Notes from July 9th Meeting (no quorum). Receive and file
Summary of Notes from August 13th Meeting (no quorum). Receive and file

3. Proposed Ordinance: decriminalizing marijuana in City of Superior.

This ordinance was discussed at the Public Safety Meeting and was received and filed. Chief Alexander referred to a similar ordinance from Eau Claire and said that he, the City Attorney and District Attorney will review and revise the language.

This ordinance would allow people found with a small amount of marijuana (25 grams or less) be charged with a City ordinance instead of a criminal charge at the State level. This ordinance will also allow Police Officers some discretion when charging an individual, instead of a criminal conviction which could impact their future education, career, this would allow them to pay a fine or do community service.

Other things to consider would be the fine structure, definitely would be less than the State imposed and also to include an educational component. Include best practices for American Indians.

*Council
12/4/18*

Commission's Recommendation: Draft the ordinance at the District Attorney's discretion that when an individual is charged with possession of 25 grams or less of marijuana, will be charged with a City Ordinance which will include a fine. In lieu of fine, there should be a component for community work and an educational piece.

Motion by Lancour, seconded by Benton, to approve the recommendation.

4. New Business - Police Excessive Force Issue.

Chair Young would like to see a complaint policy in place. She was advised by Chief Alexander that if there is a complaint against a police officer, the first step is to speak to the Supervisor or higher; 2nd step would be to write a letter to the Police Chief/ or Human Resources; and 3rd step would be to come before the Police and Fire Commission.

Police and Fire Commission are also tasked with reviewing the SPD's policies, making any changes.

Chief Alexander encouraged the Commission Members to attend the next Police and Fire Commission meeting scheduled for October 10th @ 6:00 pm.

This item will continue on the agenda for further conversations.

5. Any other business.

Young said she had an invitation from the FBI to participate in a forum on excessive force scheduled in Duluth. She was not planning on attending, but encouraged other members, if they wished to.

6. Next meeting Monday, October 8 @ 4:00 pm, in Room #300.

7. Meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rani Gill
Chief of Staff to the Mayor