



Justice System Task Force

MISSION STATEMENT

We collaborate with allies to eradicate personal, institutional, structural and systemic racism for Black and Brown People. Beginning with ourselves, our Rochester community, our nation and the world, we will work towards creating systems of universal justice, equity, fairness and equality. We will create safe spaces that enable difficult conversations in order to understand, educate, empower and advocate for policy changes and will provide a venue for lifting the voices of people experiencing gross injustice.

Minutes

Monday 2/8/21

Meeting opened 6:00 PM; closed at 7:20 PM

In Attendance: Kathleen FitzPatrick, Pastor Wanda Wilson, Rev. Markeisha Jackson, Kanza Chatman, Laurie Mahoney, Ralph Carter, Grace Carswell and Alan Dickinson

Opening Prayer offered by Al Dickinson

Last months minutes approved with the correction of Kanza's last name.

UPDATE: The mission statement was read along with the suggestions from Grace. The group modified the wording and discussed the reference to people of color vs. black and brown. The changes were made and agreed to by all members in attendance. The finalized version is below the heading of this document. Ralph raised the question if the reference to race needed to be consistent with the other task force teams. It was unknown if they were creating a mission statement.

Kathleen FitzPatrick shared a letter drafted by herself, Dr Harrison and Denise Mack that was sent to the PAB asking them for a full disclosure of the investigation surrounding the death of Daniel Prude and the young girl that was handcuffed and maced.

The City of Rochester draft response to Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 203 on police reform proposals is available. The document is 600+ pages and available on line if interested.

RESEARCH: Kathleen FitzPatrick shared a paper titled Allocation of Resources for Law Enforcement and Alternatives that included recommendation by the CJTF.

Action Assignment: Rev. Markeisha Jackson and Kanza Chatman have volunteered to look into the Rochester proposal. Do the proposals need to be updated? Are they still relevant? Where is the money being spent?

The Rochester Police Dept has the 2nd highest budget for a city of this size in the country. Following only Birmingham, Alabama.

One of our focuses this year is the building of leadership teams for our “containers”. Each area will have a leadership team that will network out in the community in hopes of identifying and creating the allies that are needed to be successful.

ADVOCACY: Kathleen shared that Plush’s sister is in need of help. As a refresher, Plush admitted to an offence incorrectly and is faced with severe criminal charges. He is out on bail currently.

Kanza shared that Keyvin’s property was initially used as collateral for his bond. The judge agreed to return the property to the family and allow a \$100,000 signature bond to be used instead. Keyvin is starting his internship now along with his final semester in school. He will be graduating in May. Prayers were offered by Rev. Markeisha that he can get the “career criminal label” removed from his profile.

Action Assignment: Kathleen Fitzpatrick asked all of the members to review and give some thought and prayer about which container we each would want to work on.

- Legislative Initiatives
- Research
- Actions
- Advocacy
- Education

Pastor Wanda offered the inspiring closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Dickinson