

City of Montpelier Police Review Committee
Meeting Minutes · June 1, 2021
Video Conference

Committee members present: Alyssa Schuren, Michael Sherman, Lauren Hierl, Abbey Jermyn, Justin Drechsler, Daniel Towle, Jack McCullough, Jen Duggan

Other individuals present: Mary Smith, Morgen Edwards (committee intern), Carol Plante, Chief Brian Peete

The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair Alyssa Schuren at 4:30 pm.

1. The committee members approved the meeting minutes for May 24, 2021.
2. The Chair invited public comments. There were no public comments.
3. Lauren noted that the SEJAC committee received a preview of the results of the Creative Discourse process last week. The draft will go back out to participants for review and feedback and then will be ready to share more broadly. Alyssa noted that Creative Discourse would like to share results with Chief Peete and his team. Alyssa will join this meeting.
4. The committee discussed the report.
 - We have now received all bios from committee members.
 - Committee members provided an update on assigned draft sections.
5. The committee members reviewed the following committee recommendation:
 - *Montpelier City Council should authorize revisions of the Montpelier Police Department (MPD) minimum requirements for hiring officers to include: 1. A minimum age of 21 years old; 2. A minimum of one year of post-secondary education (Associates degree preferred); 3. A minimum of 1 year's equivalent of volunteer or paid community service.*
 - *1. A minimum age of 21 years old.* All committee members voted to approve.
 - *2. A minimum of one year of post-secondary education (Associates degree preferred).*
 - The committee considered three alternatives: original (1 member voted to approve); original + "or life experience validated by higher education institution" (2 members voted to approve); and original + "or equivalent life or internship experience" (6 members voted to approve)
 - *3. A minimum of 1 year's equivalent of volunteer or paid community service.* The committee tabled discussion of the third criteria, and

the Chair noted she would pose three options to vote on for the next meeting.

6. The committee members discussed process for future meetings. Members agreed that future discussions will be limited to 30 minutes per recommendation unless members agree to extend discussion. The recommendation drafter would not provide an overview and it will be assumed that all members review the written recommendation in advance of the meeting.
7. The committee members discussed the timeline for the report, and all generally agreed the June 30 deadline was not manageable. The members discussed a new deadline of the end of August. Jack and Lauren noted that they did not believe this would pose a problem with the Council as the committee is clearly working diligently to meet the charge. Lauren noted that it would be helpful to have the committee report completed in advance of budget discussions, which usually begin in earnest in the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM
Meeting Minutes Submitted by Jen Duggan