

Procedural Justice Committee Meeting: March 3, 2022

The Procedural Justice Committee held a meeting in the Community Room of the Public Safety Building on March 3, 2022. Attending were Devon Zanin, Debra Long, John Zeltmann, Isis Benitez, John Penney, Tom O'Neill, Jenna Salmonese and Cecilia McPeck.

Zeltmann asked if members had any questions after last meeting's presentation by police officials regarding the city's Police Reform & Reinvention Plan that was sent to the state last year. The committee had no specific questions.

Long said SNUG has had a good presence in schools of late and have been holding assemblies that are making a difference. She said after one such assembly, some students met with SNUG and said they were thinking of joining of gang but have decided not to after hearing the messages of SNUG members who provide students with positive reinforcement and focus on those with a high risk for involvement with gun violence.

Benitez said a community member had asked her whether it would be possible for Mobile Crisis Unit officials to respond to a call without police officers. Zanin and Zeltmann said if a call goes to the Mobile Crisis Unit, it is up to officials there whether they believe a police presence is necessary to help handle the response.

The committee also discussed the Implicit Bias training it will be receiving soon. Penney said he created a Doodle poll and so far the results show members favor either the April 2 or April 23 date for the training, which is expected to last about six hours. The committee expects to make a decision soon on the matter.