

The Procedural Justice Committee held a meeting in the Community Room of the Public Safety Building on October 13, 2022. Attending were John Zeltmann, John Penney, Sean McCarthy, Isis Benitez, Jenna Salmonese, Cecilia McPeck, Carisma Collins, Debra Gause, Krystal Miller and Ivan Braxton.

McCarthy went over some of the details regarding a family member of a Marist College student killed following a shooting at the Courtyard by Marriott on Route 9 on Oct 2. Two male suspects were taken into custody, including Roy A Johnson. On August 9, 2022 city police had responded to a shooting on Mansion Street, and a victim later died in the hospital. During the course of that homicide investigation, city determined that Johnson was present during the incident. While city police had continue to investigate this case, Johnson was not located by City of Poughkeepsie Police or Detectives prior to the incident that occurred on October 2 at the Courtyard Marriott.

McCarthy also addressed questions posed by the End the New Jim Crow Action Network, including "What is the exact mission statement of the Procedural Justice Committee?"

McCarthy said the committee's mission statement is, "Maintain and improve the relationship between the City of Poughkeepsie Police Department and the residents of the City of Poughkeepsie through cooperation and shared goals."

E.N.J.A.N. also wanted to know if the "Cocoa with a Cop" program, in which students get to ask questions and interact with local law enforcement, was happening, and McCarthy said they were working on staffing issues to try to resurrect the program which has been discontinued during COVID.

E.N.J.A.N also asked why are people coming off the Procedural Justice Committee. McCarthy and others offered several reasons, including the city's police reform and modernization report being finalized and sent to the state, the churn that typically occurs after several years on most volunteer boards, and COVID-related factors.

E.N.J.A.N. also inquired about the City of Poughkeepsie Police Athletic League. McCarthy said the city has an active PAL, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing community involvement with the youth in Poughkeepsie. The organization coordinates a lot of community events. Including National Night Out, a fishing derby and many holiday-related activities. PAL also raises funds that go directly to youth programs and activities.

Ivan Braxton and Krystal Miller then introduced themselves as new members of the committee.

Penney went over some upcoming events, including "The You Goes Boo" on October 22 at Eastman Park and a celebration to mark the renovations to Pershing Avenue Park on Oct 28.

The Procedural Justice Committee will meet again on November 3.

