

Hanover Township Diversity and Engagement Task Force
MINUTES of the MEETING
November 19, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eugene Martinez at 6:34 p.m.

Roll Call: Amin Haider, Syed Haq, Ray Alvarez, Grecia Tures, Jeff Petro and Trustee Martinez. Also, present Kristin Vana, Assistant Township Administrator and Ana Lalley, Elgin Chief of Police.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Alvarez, seconded by Mr. Haider. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comment: None

Presentation from Elgin Police Department: Chief Lalley offered a presentation on the overall responsibilities of the Elgin Police Department and how they prioritize diversity and engagement. Chief Lalley reviewed the various ways the department engages with the community through advisory committees, participation and hosting of community events, and striving to make all information and data of the department transparent through their website. Most recently, the Elgin Police Department was present for several peaceful protests, which Chief Lalley stated demonstrated their positive relationship with the community. Additionally, the Elgin Police Department has a “Resident Program Officer” program which requires some of the officers in the department to live within various neighborhoods in the community. This helps submerge the department into the community and embrace diversity, while identifying needs. Currently the department is working with the Center for Policing Equity to complete a lookback of 5 years of data to determine if there are any racial disparities within the data. Following a review of the results, the department will evaluate and implement additional programs and/or services as appropriate. Lastly, Chief Lalley reviewed recruitment efforts and the department’s “21st Century Policing” efforts which includes the use of body cameras for the last 4 years, excessive trainings related to diversity and accountability, audits of the department’s use of body cameras, recruitment focus on continuously diversifying the pool of officers, as well as other information that can be found on the Elgin Police Department’s website.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of October 15, 2020: Mr. Haider moved to approve the meeting minutes from October 15, 2020. Mr. Alvarez seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Review and Discuss Elgin Police Department Presentation: All Task Force members expressed they were impressed with the presentation and collectively agreed that the Elgin Police Department’s efforts to engage with the community they serve were positive and effective. The Task Force highlighted the evidence of great leadership of the department and the importance of transparency which encourage positive interactions between officers and the public.

Discussion of Task Force Meeting Schedule: Assistant Township Administrator Vana presented the upcoming Task Force Meeting Schedule. The Meeting Schedule was approved.

Other Business: Trustee Martinez shared a reminder that the next meeting would take place December 17, 2020 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Adjournment: Mr. Haider moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Alvarez seconded the motion. Motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin Vana
Staff Liaison