

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
COVID RESPONSE TASK FORCE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE



DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday July 26, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
Conference Room A, City Hall, 1 Junkins Ave. Portsmouth, NH

Attendees: Will Arvelo, Kathy Beebe, Linda Briolat, Nancy Brown, Whitney Brown, Amber Buttermore, Janet Laatsch, Lori Waltz, Molly Wilson, City Manager Karen Conard

Guests: City Councilor Andrew Bagley, Petra Huda

- I. The meeting was called to order at 12:03 pm.
- II. Conard called the meeting to order, welcomed members and facilitated introductions. Conard shared printed information relative to RSA 91-A (the Right To Know Law) and its relation to public bodies.
- III. Conard called for nomination of officers. Waltz moved to elect Beebe and Arvelo as Co-Chairs, Laatsch seconded. Motion was approved by unanimous vote. Arvelo moved to elect Janet Laatsch as Secretary, Waltz seconded. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.
- IV. City Councilor Bagley shared his intent with the suggestion of creating the CRTFBRC, and read the Charge and Mission Statement. A general discussion ensued with all participating.
- V. Conard gave an update on ARPA funding, including what has been spent to date and what remains for consideration. A general discussion ensued with all participating.
- VI. Meeting cadence was discussed, and the group determined that it wished to meet twice per month at the outset, and may consider establishing subcommittees or working groups that meet in addition to regular meetings of the full group. The next meetings of the full group were tentatively set for August 9th and August 23rd, pending confirmation of an in-person quorum. The August 9th meeting agenda will seek to include an update on ARPA eligible uses by Assistant City Attorney Jane Ferrini and an update on the Community Public Health Assessment by Health Officer Kim McNamara.
- VII. At the suggestion of City Councilor Bagley (and to be included in all future meetings), public comment was allowed and welcomed. Petra Huda spoke, inquired about School ARPA funds (known as ESSER) and thanked the group for their establishment and conversation.
- VIII. Motion to adjourn by Arvelo, seconded by W. Brown, and unanimously approved.