

Working Group for Police & Community - Group Memory
Meeting December 9, 2021

Meeting Goal: The primary purpose of this meeting was to begin the process of choosing between options for recommendations to City Council.

Pre-meeting Preparation: Prior to the meeting, committee members were asked to complete an anonymous survey asking for their opinion of the options generated in the last working group meeting.

Co-Chair Welcome & Announcements: The session began with brief welcoming remarks from the committee co-chairs.

Choosing Among Options for Recommendations: The committee considered the options generated during the last meeting for recommendations on the topic of mental health and police responses. This discussion began with updates on efforts currently underway by the Albany County Mental Health Board from board members Tess Kilwein, Clair White, and Chief Stalder. Committee members discussed draft language for recommendations. Two recommendations were motioned, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote:

- The City Council should implement a response model by mental health professionals for the Laramie Police Department with the ability to consult with the Albany County Mental Health Board. The City should support a collaborative effort with the County on mental health responses. (Motioned by: Nate Martin; Seconded by: Tess Kilwein; 17 voted to “approve”)
- The City Council should prioritize work on mental health response opportunities for Laramie Police Department involving data collection and program evaluation as allowed by law. The City Council should explore partnering with the University of Wyoming on data collection and program evaluation. (Motioned by: Tess Kilwein; Seconded by: Hunter Swilling; 17 voted to “approve”)

In addition, the committee began discussions of police oversight options. The committee discussed reasons why an oversight board might or might not be beneficial for the Laramie community.