From:	Rosalyn LaPier
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Re: Systemic racism in Missoula
Date:	Tuesday, June 30, 2020 8:07:19 AM

Greetings,

Yesterday, a group of young people who work with social justice & racial justice groups asked for clarity on last week's "public" meeting as discussed in the Missoulian article from the newly created committee.

I am interested in seeking clarity & transparency as well.

1) Can the Missoula City Council please share with the public the process for creating this Ad-Hoc committee? Who decided who was on the committee? The scope of their work? And the process for engaging the public?

2) Is this a public process? Apparently there was a "public" meeting last week, but where was this meeting advertised? I was not invited & neither we a lot of people who do this work. Yesterday, a young person called the City clerk who said it was not a City meeting, but a UM meeting. However, UM also follows public meeting laws. Again, I seek clarity & transparency here -- is this a public process? Are the meetings public?

3) Yesteday, I witnessed a member of this Ad-Hoc committee attempt to shame & intimidate an employee of a social justice organization -- on social media -- who was asking questions about transparency. Is it the intention of this committee to challenge those who ask questions by implying that their 1st Amenment rights to ask will be met with public shaming? Again, I am seeking clarity from the City of Missoula? What is the role of this committee? Is it to silence BIPOC voices?

4) Finally, the proposed (?) proposal was also shared on social media yesterday. I have read it. When did the City decide to move forward with this proposal? What was the process? Where is the transparency? How does this address systemic racism WITHIN City government & the police departement -- which is what our citizens are asking for? A 12 week study to ask BIPOC & all cititizens to prove that racism exists in Montana, Missoula & within City government seems counter-productive -- when we know that - yes - racism exists.

I look forward to hearing your responces & learn what actions steps are being taken by the City of Missoula.

Thank you for your time,

Rosalyn LaPier
214 Hastings Avenue
Missoula, MT 59801
406-728-6224 (land line)

On Fri, Jun 26, 2020, 10:20 AM Rosalyn LaPier <rrlapier@gmail.com> wrote:

> I was disappointed, but not surprised, to learn (no pun intended) this week that the Missoula City Council has decided not to act to address system racism in our local government. But

instead has asked the BIPOC community to solve the problem.

I am sharing an article from the Washington Post that addresses why this type of method is problematic.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2020/06/26/black-ergs-tech/

I still hope that the Missoula City Council will choose to be more pro-active to make change.

Thank you for your time,

Rosalyn LaPier
214 Hastings Avenue
Missoula, MT 59801
406-728-6224 (land line)

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Rosalyn LaPier** <rrlapier@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Jun 12, 2020 at 11:32 AM
Subject: Systemic racism in Missoula
To: <council@ci.missoula.mt.us>

Dear City Council,

I am a long time Missoula citizen, home-owner and tax-payer. I am also a 100th generation Native Montanan.

I am writing to push the City to make system-wide change – now – to end systemic racism in our governmental systems.

1) The City needs BIPOC voices in the room at all meetings. As a community we need to end systemic racism in our governmental structures. This means we can no longer have white-only meetings. If your answer to this is – we do not know how to solve this – then the City needs to hire an expert that can do it. Please do not ask BIPOC community members to solve this problem (and especially not solve it with free labor). It is not the job of the BIPOC community to create this change – it is the job of the City to make this change. BIPOC community members can only hope to hold you accountable – but you have to do your job to represent the entire community – not just white community members.

2) The City needs to publicly denounce armed militia in our streets. This is a public safety & public health issue (not a 1st or 2nd amendment issue).

3) The City needs to reorganize our Police Department to reflect evidence-based public safety and public health research that shows that the City needs – unarmed – conflict mediators, violence interrupters, crisis response teams and public health counselors to address many of the issues that armed police currently address. And keep a smaller armed police force that addresses true acts of criminal violence.

I hope to hear in the near future how the City will act on addressing structural racism in Missoula.

Please feel free to contact me at rrlapier@gmail.com with comments. questions or concerns.

Thank you for your time,

Rosalyn LaPier
214 Hastings Avenue
Missoula, MT 59801
406-728-6224 (land line)