

~~419 Broadway~~
Cambridge, Mass. 02138
June 10, 1977

City Councillors
City Hall
Cambridge

Dear Councillor

A letter written to each city councillor dated June 6 by John Miskill, chairperson of the the City-Wide Police Task Force, and statements made by him as reported to me before you at the City Council on June 6, completely misrepresent the City Wide Police Task Force.

NO VOTE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE POLICE TASK FORCE WAS
EVER TAKEN CONCERNING A POLICE COMMISSIONER.

On May 25 a large open-meeting of the City-Wide Police Task was held to meet the new chief of police and to hear other persons invited to speak. It was a large meeting of about 40 persons. This was the only agenda announced by the letter that goes out calling the meeting. After hearing the speeches, about 9:45, most people left, leaving 14 people and the coordinator. I was one who remained. I am a duly elected representative of the Area 2 Police task force.,

All of a sudden, an unannounced motion was made objecting to the creation of a police commissioner. I called a quorum. There was no quorum of the elected representatives from each area Police Task Force. A vote was taken of the 14 people there. The vote was 13 in favor of the motion and 1 opposed....In the discussion before the vote, I had the ~~impressio~~ impression that many of the 13 stayed because they knew such a vote was going to be taken. I, a representative of my area, had no idea such a vote was to be taken. It had been passed by word of mouth to those who would be in favor of such a motion.

The vote represents only the 13 persons and DOES NOT REPRESENT THE CITY-WIDE POLICE TASK FORCE. A quorum was not present.

Mel Saunders, coordinator of the Police Task Force activities can verify the above. He is attached to the Office of Community Relations of the Police Department.

Respectfully yours,

Joan Lorentz
Joan Lorentz

Area 2 Representative, Police Task Force

S-360

Comm. from Joan Lorentz re: position of
Police Commissioner.

In City Council,
June 13, 1977

Placed on file