

September 25, 2017

Dear Acton Board of Selectmen,

We are writing as members of Congregation Beth Elohim's *Na'aseh* group ("We will act" in Hebrew). *Na'aseh* is the social justice arm of our Social Acton committee. Thank you for your support of and hard work in developing the official Acton Police policy on due process. Thank you, also, for your support of a similar Town-wide policy.

Like most Jewish families, many of our families at Beth Elohim are descended from immigrants who came to this country within the last hundred years. Both Jewish history and Jewish texts teach us to love and respect immigrants. We are encouraged that the police policy makes Acton a town that upholds those values.

We are writing to encourage the BOS to share the official Acton Police policy more widely with the Town. It is excellent that you gave the policy a public hearing recently, but that only reaches the people who were attending, watching or reading the minutes. All residents, especially those most vulnerable, need to understand this policy.

A simple summary in plain language, widely distributed, would help alleviate concerns and diminish rumors. If the policy could be translated into Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese that would be even better. When the Town policy is completed, that could be shared in a similar fashion.

Some ideas for distribution:

- AB Schools and PTSOs
- Town Hall
- Acton libraries
- Acton social worker, Laura Ducharme
- Acton-Boxborough United Way (could help distribute to nonprofits and diverse communities in town)
- Local food pantries and community suppers
- faith communities
- an article in the Beacon

Here at CBE, we are doing our part by holding a **joint Brotherhood/Na'aseh breakfast this Sunday, October 1 at 9:15**. The topic will be safe communities. Speakers include Sen. Jamie Eldridge, sponsor of the Safe Communities Act, Acton Police Chief Rich Burrows, Acton Deputy Chief James Cogan, CBE's own Rachel Tadmor, an immigration attorney, and Jobs with Justice. The new Acton Police policy and proposed state legislation concerning ICE detainees will be discussed. You are all welcome to attend.

We are extremely proud that Acton has historically been a welcoming community for residents of many different colors, languages, and backgrounds. We want everyone to know that our Police and Town officials intend to do everything they can to keep it that way.

Thank you,

Ann Budner, Na'aseh Co-Chair
On behalf of Na'aseh
Congregation Beth Elohim
133 Prospect St, Acton