

Pg Sittenfeld:

Just emailed you all first draft of a letter incorporating people's ideas
here is the conference line for 1:30pm today:

Dial in number: 563-999-1106

Access code: 819666

Pin (if needed): 1619

Chris Seelbach:

1pm?

Pg Sittenfeld:

1:30pm

Chris Seelbach:

Ok

Wendell Young:

Got it. Thanks.

Greg Landsman:

Wendell, are you around for a quick call? Tried your cell but it went to VM.

Thanks, friend.

Wendell Young:

Yes. Call now.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Here's the call-in info one more time; talk to everyone in 2 minutes

Dial in number: 563-999-1106

Access code: 819666

Pin (if needed): 1619

You hopping on, Wendell?

Wendell Young:

Not yet. Can't get through. Trying again.

No answer. 563-999-1106?

Pg Sittenfeld:

yes

Chris Seelbach:

yup. that worked for me

Wendell Young:

Trying again.

Pg Sittenfeld:

if it doesn't work, I'll call you Wendell and thread you in

Wendell Young:

Not working. Please call me. Call me at: 961-1176.

Chris Seelbach:

Hey Greg. I dropped off the call. I think you need to be on there more than
me. Can you please call in ASAP?

Pg Sittenfeld:

Greg, able to call-in?

Chris Seelbach:

he's not getting texts. But just called him and he's calling in

Greg Landsman:

Calling in now...

Pg Sittenfeld:

Will send updated letter in 10 minutes tops
please hold tight to review quickly, and send feedback or say "Approved"

Chris Seelbach:

Ok

Wendell Young:

Ok

Chris Seelbach:

How are we releasing to mayor and public?

Pg Sittenfeld:

Tara from Tamaya's office is going to send out from Tara's email account to the normal full press list

Chris Seelbach:

Ok. And we can post to our own social media?

Pg Sittenfeld:

fine by me...

Tamaya Dennard:

That's a good idea

Wendell Young:

This is all good.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Just sent revised letter. Reply with word changes or with "Approved"

Wendell Young:

Just got a call from Harry's lawyer and then from Harry regarding their being told by John that I am the fifth vote on a separation package for Harry. I haven't spoken to that little sucker! He just flat out lied to Garry and his lawyer. Is it too late to insert into the letter something making it clear that "we" do not support a buy-out for Harry?

Pg Sittenfeld:

that language is in the letter I sent you all

Chris Seelbach:

Approved

Tamaya Dennard:

Approved.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Approved.

Wendell Young:

Approved.

Just noticed we didn't include the Black Agenda, NAN, The Black United Front

Pg Sittenfeld:

will add those in
Greg?

T, once we hear from Greg, I'm sure you've got this already on your media list, but just make sure it goes to all 4 TV stations; Wetterich; Coolidge; Jason

Williams; Mark Curnutte; Jay Hanselman; Paula Christian & Amanda; Nick Swartell; and Kevin Aldridge

am I forgetting any other biggest?

*biggees?

Chris Seelbach:

no answer from Greg's cell

Tamaya Dennard:

In addition to the TV stations, we will include individual reporters as well

Pg Sittenfeld:

??

Wendell Young:

Don't forget Lincoln Ware and the Herald.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Great call!

Tamaya Dennard:

Good call! We had the herald but not Lincoln

Pg Sittenfeld:

Tamaya, I'll send you FINAL FINAL copy as soon as we hear from Greg

Greg Landsman:

Looks good to me.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Bravo everyone!

Tamaya Dennard:

Awesome. I will give Tara the go ahead.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Courage, clarity, firmness, reasonableness!

T, I just emailed you both the final content

Wendell Young:

Good. Mann's office is asking for the "press release." Lol

Pg Sittenfeld:

will send to whole group so people can use on social media too

Wendell Young:

Great!

Tamaya Dennard:

Thank you

Pg Sittenfeld:

should we all post concurrently on our FB?

let me know...?

Wendell Young:

I think social media posting is fine.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Doing so now...

T, you are too?

Tamaya Dennard:

Absolutely

Pg Sittenfeld:

Team, I knew there was one thing I meant to bring up that I forgot to on the call. 4 of us at a time need to have a conversation with Harry about things he needs to do to improve. I've overtly told him I believe he needs to seek some sort of counseling. But he needs to hear it collectively from us, and to frankly understand that his job depends on correcting certain things.

should we schedule a meeting with him for next week - with all of us minus Chris, who will be OOT?

Wendell Young:

Not now please. I think he would view this as a softening of support. May I suggest we reserve that conversation for after we get through this process?

Pg Sittenfeld:

Wendell, I'm okay waiting if the others agree. HOWEVER, it's a conversation that must be had - sooner rather than later. Harry struggles with some things and needs to know we support him, but also bring certain expectations. I'll defer to the group on timing.

Wendell Young:

I too will abide by what the group decides. For me there is the recognition that Harry is under an enormous amount of pressure. I worry that he would view the conversation as us piling on. The timing isn't good.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Separate FYI: the #2 at the Sentinels just called me and asked that I pass this along: she and Lou Arnold just had a meeting with John, where she said John tried to divide and conquer the Sentinels from the other African-American groups, and also intentionally misrepresented the Manager's position. Not for public consumption, but she asked that you all be notified.

Tamaya Dennard:

Divide and conquer is his thing. He tried to do that to me twice this week

Wendell Young:

You saw that on a larger scale during the Responsible Bidder wrangling. He tried to pit the Urban League, Ministers Alliance, CAA, and others against the NAACP, The Black Agenda, and more. Typical Cranley tactic. Don't forget that he will lie in a heart beat.

Pg Sittenfeld:

<https://www.cincinnati.com/story/opinion/2018/03/16/opinion-cranley-black-somebody-has-go/429452002/>

Tamaya Dennard:

I spoke with Joe Mallory a little while ago. He said Cranley reached out to him and said I was the one that flipped

Chris Seelbach:

Pastor keeps saying "someone flipped"

Tamaya Dennard:

They also said Wendell was the 5th vote earlier

I told Joe they are reaching

Chris Seelbach:

I think we're very strong. Which I've been waiting for. For years.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Weird of Cranley to say that to Joe. Joe loathes John and is very against any buyout

Chris, this coalition is our wedding gift to you and Craig ☑

Tamaya Dennard:

That's what Joe said. He was confused by it. But divide and conquer is John's thing. It's all unfortunate.

Wendell Young:

Amen! We're the new "gang of five." I pray we stay strong and continue to trust each other. We have the power to move this forward.

Pg Sittenfeld:

I'm currently driving but also got some good insight about the financial piece of appointing special counsel. All feels very doable.

Wendell Young:

Meant to say; Move the city forward.

Pg Sittenfeld:

I'm game to make it a gang of 7 even! I know Mann and Pastor must be lonely over there!

Wendell Young:

Good news. Please share when you can.

I think maybe Mann more than Pastor.

Chris Seelbach:

I hate to be cynical. And I hope I'm wrong. But I don't think either of them will cross Cranley on big things

Wendell Young:

You're not cynical. You're probably right. I'm just keeping hope alive. Lol

Chris Seelbach:

Supposedly Harry has accepted an 18 month buyout and may force a vote of Council. Just so everyone know, I am 100% a no against any buyout.

Pg Sittenfeld:

I am also a firm No. I'm not looting the taxpayers because John is threatening a smear campaign. That's holding both Harry and the taxpayers hostage.

This whole thing disgusts me at many levels.

Chris Seelbach:

And I really hope we can stay strong as the majority. If not, they will know who they can pick off the next 4 years.

Wendell Young:

I will not vote for a buyout. I'm firm! Harry gets what his contract calls for. Nothing more.

The police chief is next. Watch.

Greg Landsman:

Agree. Sorry, was asleep. Israel time. Get back Tuesday evening.

Chris Seelbach:

We should probably release some kind of statement in response to

yesterday's news, reaffirming the majority of Council does not support a buyout. Everyone agree? PG could you draft something?

Pg Sittenfeld:

If the group wants that, I could draft something later today. Just me know.

Wendell Young:

Ok with me.

Chris Seelbach:

Is everyone good with this? Or have changes? "If the Manager wishes to move on from his current role, we respect that decision. But the Council Majority remains firm that we are not signing off on paying someone extra to not do their job. That is neither fair nor responsible to the taxpayers.

Moreover, it is our understanding that, in fact, the Manager does enjoy his job; he simply doesn't like the idea of serving under the looming threat of a smear campaign. That, too, is understandable.

But asking the taxpayers to provide significant resources in order to avoid the impact of such a smear campaign would set a dangerous precedent and enable behavior which we do not approve of.

We reiterate our call for a ceasefire, and we remain committed to the thoughtful, fair, transparent next steps we have previously laid out.

We believe in the City Charter, we believe in honesty, and we believe in collaboration. All are welcome to join us in upholding these pillars."

Just respond "agreed" if you're good with it

Pg Sittenfeld:

Agreed

Wendell Young:

Agreed.

Tamaya Dennard:

Agreed

Chris Seelbach:

Greg?

Greg Landsman:

Sorry. I am just finishing up.

I don't think we need a statement. And I don't like commenting on what Harry might or might not think or want. Also think some of it is unnecessary inflammatory. We are trying to bring some maturity to this ridiculous situation. To deescalate.

If we do something, I would suggest something short and simple.

But again, I don't think we need a statement.

Here is what I have personally sent to people and reporters:

"My position hasn't changed and I believe that's true for the majority. I don't support a big buyout. We need all the facts, and that's the point of the independent counsel. As I've said from the beginning, the issues need to be addressed in the next couple of weeks."

Pg Sittenfeld:

Greg, I do think there's value in the 5 of us putting something out. Here's another crack at it, even though this feels watered down to me and doesn't speak to why a buyout is really so offensive.

"Our position has not changed. We do not support an increased buyout or believe that's responsible to the taxpayers."

We reiterate our call for a ceasefire, and we remain committed to the thoughtful, fair, transparent next steps we have previously laid out. Let's collect the needed facts quickly and calmly.

We believe in the City Charter, we believe in honesty, and we believe in collaboration. All are welcome to join us in upholding these pillars."

Could ppl live with that? Again not my first choice, but I think a collective statement is important

Greg Landsman:

I fine with the first two paragraphs.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Ok, why not 3rd?

I think first two paragraphs better than nothing.... (even though again feels too watered down)

Wendell Young:

I'm ok with this but it is really watered down. If this is what it takes to gain consensus then ok. I think the third paragraph is important in that it offers a rationale for our statement. Greg I hope you will reconsider your thoughts on the third paragraph.

Pg Sittenfeld:

3rd paragraph feels like mom and apple pie - who could disagree?!

Is there version of 3rd graf you can make work, Greg?

Greg Landsman:

"We believe in a collaborative process, and look forward to working through this with everyone."

The current language feels like petty, "tit for tat" stuff. Again, short and simple seems right, and the first two paragraphs feel sufficient. If people want to add more flavor, they can do that individually. Lol.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Alright, I'll sacrifice my own feelings for consensus. Everyone okay for

Harmon to email statement out with first 2 grafs + Greg's 3rd ?

So final would be:

"Our position has not changed. We do not support an increased buyout or believe that's responsible to the taxpayers.

We reiterate our call for a ceasefire, and we remain committed to the thoughtful, fair, transparent next steps we have previously laid out. Let's collect the needed facts quickly and calmly.

We believe in a collaborative process, and look forward to working through this with all stakeholders."

Then ppl can individually put their own mustard on it

Ok?

Chris Seelbach:

agreed

Pg Sittenfeld:

Agreed

Chris Seelbach:

Tamaya? Wendell?

Pg Sittenfeld:

Wendell blessed it (despite feeling same as I do)

Chris Seelbach:

Cool. Tamaya?

Tamaya Dennard:

Agreed. Sorry, I'm out and about and trying to be present

Pg Sittenfeld:

??

Chris Seelbach:

Btw. A little brevity. My mom just told us she surprising us and flying down tomorrow to Puerto Vallarta to help us plan wedding :)

Pg Sittenfeld:

enjoy! and don't be in any rush to come back - you're not missing anything!

Wendell Young:



must be living right.

Wow! Congrats again. You



must be living right.

Wow! Congrats again. You

Chris Seelbach:

LOVE that Wendell!

Pg Sittenfeld:

Wendell with the strong GIF game!

Tamaya Dennard:

What press conference is scheduled for this morning?

Pg Sittenfeld:

Haven't heard of one...

Tamaya Dennard:

Ok thanks

Wendell Young:

Haven't heard of one.

Pg Sittenfeld:

Two things: 1) Kevin Aldridge wants to talk to a few members of the Majority tomorrow at 11am for our insights on this situation - Wendell or T, would you want to?

2) Steve Megerle from Pastor's office came to my office at 4pm today and said, what if 8 months of Harry's salary came from the public (per the contact), and then another 10 months worth of severance came from a private source (if that were even legal or ethical). My response to him was:

1) I don't know 2) I'd have to confer with the majority 3) it would be contingent on very direct input on who the incoming manager would be 4) Harry would obviously have to want to go that route too

but Megerle/Pastor seem to already be trying to spread some horseshit rumor that I might flip - so just don't want any of you believing it. Same crap they tried to pull w/ Tamaya and Wendell, etc.