

Task force aims to eliminate future riots

Participants talk about contributing factors to October mayhem

By Amanda Dyslin, Free Press Staff Writer
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MANKATO — A diverse group of Mankato residents met Wednesday night to begin studying the reasons behind the October riot near the Minnesota State University campus.

The Civil Disturbance Task Force wants to prevent future riots from occurring. The task force held its first meeting at MSU to start laying the groundwork for riot prevention.

Representatives from MSU, the City Council, Mankato Area Public Schools, Bethany Lutheran College, apartment owners, bar owners and others attended. Denise Schlake, MSU vice president for Student Affairs, facilitated the meeting.

During the free-flowing discussion, the group talked about the contributing factors to the Mankato riot, from the ideal weather to mob mentality. They discussed at length how alcohol contributed to the riotous behavior.... [Full Story>>](#)



Photo by Pat Christman

The Civil Disturbances Task Force was formed to try and answer the question left on the minds of many after the Oct. 4 riot near the MSU campus: Why did it happen? The group plans to dissect the riot and come up with ways to prevent future rioting in Mankato.