

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security One Ashburton Place, Room 2133 Boston, Massachusetts 02108 Tel: (617) 727-7775 TTY Tel: (617) 727-6618 Fax: (617) 727-4764 www.mass.gov/eopss

TERRENCE M. REIDY Secretary

### MAURA T. HEALEY Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL Lieutenant Governor

# MEETING MINUTES RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date: December 13, 2022 Time: 11:00AM-1:00PM Microsoft Teams Virtual Location: <u>Click here to join the meeting</u> Or call in (audio only) <u>857-327-9245</u> Phone Conference ID: 340 146 417#

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairwomen designee Arielle Mullaney.

		Present	Absont	Meeting Minutes	Annual Banart
1	Chair-Arielle Mullaney	X	Ausein	Yes	Report Yes
2	Scott Taberner	X		Yes	Yes
3	Rep. Sean Garballey*	X		Yes	Left at Noon
4	Sen. James Eldridge		X		
5	DA Marian Ryan		X		
6	Allison S. Cartwright	Χ		Yes	Yes
7	Lorna Spencer		X		
8	Ret. Chief Fred Ryan	Χ		Yes	Yes
9	Diane Coffey	Χ		Yes	Yes
10	Andrea Berte	Χ		Yes	Yes
11	Judge Rosemary Mineham**				Resigned
12	Kara Hayes	Χ		Yes	Yes
13	Carolyn Boyes- Watson**				Resigned
14	Vacant				
15	Dennis D. Evertt Jr.	Χ		Abstain	Yes
16	Susan Jeghelian***	Χ			Yes
17	Samuel Williams	Χ		Abstain	Abstain

\*Left meeting after 12:00pm

\*\*At Roll Call it was announced that Judge Rosemary Mineham and Carolyn Boyes-Watson resigned from the Committee on 12/12/2022 \*\*\*Joined after Roll Call and approval of draft meeting minutes

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## EOPSS Staff: Anjeza Xhemollari OGR Staff: Daniel Hudson

## 2. Welcome

Chairwomen Arielle Mullaney welcomed all Committee members and attendance was taken.

## 3. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 8, 2022

Ret. Chief Fred Ryan made a motion to approve the draft meeting minutes. The motion was second by Kara Hayes. Roll call was taken. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

# 4. *Title*: Circling Up for the Long Game, presentation by JoHanna "J" Thompson, Aaron Williams, Dan Kahan (FL); Kristine Hill, Andy Prinzing (NY); Abby Whipple (CO)

Kara Hayes introduced all presenters and thanked Erin for putting this presentation together.

JoHanna "J" Thompson, Aaron Williams, Dan Kahan (FL); and Abby Whipple (CO) opened the conversation and started to talk about their journey of Restorative Justice and how each state has implemented curriculums of Restorative Justice into their communities.

Kristine Hill, Andy Prinzing (NY) did not present or attended the meeting.

Abby Whipple talked about how she got involved into the conversation of creation of standards into Colorado's history with Restorative Justice. They received earlier legislative support in early 2000s all the way up to 2013 when legislation was passed. Abby takes referrals from the court system. Currently, there is a \$5 surcharge for every person going through the Criminal Justice System in Colorado. The funding goes into a pool of money that is overseen by a statewide committee that makes restorative justice funding available to programs across the state.

Prior to creating any types of standards or practices, the group of Directors meet with stakeholders such as: DA's Offices, Judges, Defense Attorneys, practitioners and created a document of restorative practices that could be found on <u>www.rjcolorado.org</u> under RJ Defined.

Currently, the coalition is working on creating a set of standards on how to best support LGBTQIA+ and recognize people with those identities.

At the same time, the collation is also looking into updating the original standards because Restorative Justice has evolved in the past 10 years. It is a very dense conversation, and it is exciting to revise the document and hopefully will end up looking a lot like what Florida has created.



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> JoHanna "J" Thompson, Aaron Williams, Dan Kahan (FL) shared a document of "<u>Guidelines for</u> <u>Facilitation and Training in Restorative Justice Practices</u>" and went into details about their own experience and growth. They talked about specific principles and practices as facilitators and covered topics of discussion such as: do no harm, transparency, conflict of interest, roles and relationships, knowledge of restorative justice principles, values, philosophy, history, intercultural awareness, and continuous improvement.

Sam Williams-thank you for covering very interesting topics, how do you evaluate the work?

Abby-we focus on the data analysis component but perhaps this could be a call offline as to support the answer with some visual representation.

Dan-It is a very hard question to answer without a PowerPoint and in five minutes. There are various programs that do evaluations in Florida. Gathering statistics and measuring effectiveness. The Department of Juvenile Justice also gathers all statistics for all the programs.

Dennis Everett- Do you guys consult?

Abby-Yes, we provide support to different entities.

Dennis- My other question is obviously the question of race. When you are gathering communities are you working with law enforcement? Do you see the law enforcement is important? Are there resources?

Dan-Yes, our board is about 1/3 African American and more than half are female. My codirector is African American. We serve grassroot communities as well as law enforcement. We do PEACE circle in the Fort Lauderdale area and serve youth individuals. I know this is not a simple topic, and I know there is a whole array of opinions around this topic. There is power imbalance to have officers and teens in a room together and expect them to have some sort of mutual respect and shared understanding.

Abby-I will add a bit of what is going on in Colorado and the work that I am doing. In a similar program to Erin's, law enforcement does circles with the person that caused the harm and victims of crime. I really appreciated that model because it is a necessary element of humanizing everyone. I also found from my personal experience that police really needed exposure to the people in the community that they serve.



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## 5. 2022 Annual Report: Update and Discussion

Kara Hayes updated the Committee on the ongoing 2022 annual report. Kara expressed gratitude to Erin Freeborn and Susan Jeghelian for working with her on the annual report. Kara went section by section of the report as Anjeza Xhemollari was sharing the screen. The Committee decided to vote and adopt the report with any additional edits that might be forthcoming by the Committee. Prior to making a motion, Fred Ryan went on the record and stated that all reports should be factual and list accomplishments throughout the year.

Fred Ryan made a motion to approve the report, Susan Jeghelian second the motion. Roll call was taken to approve the report. The report was approved unanimously.

## 6. Grant Update

Anjeza Xhemollari provided the grant update. The AGF was re-posted due to low number of applications. The Review Team also conducted the first round of applications and will conduct the second round of application after the AGF deadline.

Susan Jeghelian asked on who from RJAC was on the Review Team. Anjeza stated that Diane Coffey agreed to be part of the Review Team as the RJAC member.

### 7. Public Comment (10 minutes)

Brenda Nolen thanked RJAC for the rich conversation.

# 8. Open Session for Topics not Reasonably Anticipated within 48 Hours of the Meeting $\rm N/A$

## 9. Adjourn

Meeting ended at 12:58pm