

CHARLES D. BAKER Governor

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> TERRENCE M. REIDY Acting Secretary

# **<u>RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u>** <u>Third Meeting-The Questionnaire Subcommittee</u>

Date: July 27, 2021 Time: 11:00AM-12:00PM 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: 108395989#

#### **Agenda Items:**

# 1. Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions

The meeting is called to order at 11:00AM

		Video/Call Absent	
1	Chair- Kara Hayes	X	
2	Strong Oak Lefebvre	X	
3	Judge Rosemary Minehan	X	
4	Carolyn Boyes-Watson	X	

#### EOPSS Staff: Anjeza Xhemollari

Others in attendance: Over 10 people attended the open meeting.

#### 2. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 18, 2021

Carolyn made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. It was second by Strong Oak. Roll call was taken. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

#### 3. Review and discussion of questionnaire survey responses

All members reviewed the respondents to the survey. Carolyn indicated that it would be helpful to figure out what we are trying to accomplish before we move to the next phase. We need to know what we are trying to do. We collect some information, and we should go over what we have learned. Both subcommittees should work together hand in hand.

Strong Oak stated that we should try to get more responses to the survey and there needs to be more response to building community response-based approaches to know what is going on in the community.

Judge Rosemary Minehan talked about her own experience with the court system. She indicated that even if a judge wants to dismiss a case they can't do it without the consent of the DA's Office, she has spent a lot of time trying to figure out how to keep people from having a record. The minute someone is arraigned they get a criminal record, and that will follow them, so we wouldn't arraign them, instead we would let them enter the diversion program. We really should reach out to MDAA and then create a group or something that decides with those partners how we create this.

# 4. Review and discussion of Susan and Carolyn's memo (attached)

Carolyn talked in depth on why the memo was created and how it brought people together at RJAC. The memo was written in 2019.

Strong Oak mention that she respects the work that Susan and Carolyn did but a lot has happened since 2019 and she would like to add anti-racist perceptive. When we look at restorative work, it is about making our communities safer. Adding to this perspective is very important.

### 5. Next Steps

Kara to provide an update to the Committee on the ongoing work and paraphs we could make some guiding principles and guidelines to follow?

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

# 7. Public Comment (10 minutes)

Maria- Just one thing that stuck me, once the six years are over what happens next. Emphasize that what a disservice this group of folks just disappears and goes away. Emphasize that we need to figure out a way to continue the work that has been done here and make sure it becomes a part of the landscape for the legislator.

Erin- One reason I thought it was important to be in this conversation, we need this to make the subcommittees real stronger and wanted to encourage this group that Carolyn's suggestion to ask the larger group to make a conclusion on the larger committee. Both of our subcommittees want to be more than just an advisory group. So putting that forward at the beginning of the conversation and then spending time on the next steps would be a positive way to shape our time

Brenda-Pleased to be here. It would be very nice to have ways we can address things that happen within the community

Ms. Bonds- urges the committee to connect not just to BIPOC providers and practitioners but to poor white people and immigrants as well.

# 8. Adjourn

Strong Oak make motion to adjourn. Meeting ended at 11:50