



## **Community Outreach Subcommittee MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Zoom

**Subcommittee Members Present:** Gail Hardy, Rachel Timm, Piotr Milczek, Cheryl Sharp, Charles Green, Ana Mitchel

**Staff:** Ken Barone, Erica Escobar

### **I. Welcome & Introductions**

Chair Gail Hardy called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

### **II. Approval of the October 23, 2024, minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from October 23, 2024. The minutes were unanimously approved by members via voice vote.

### **III. Old Business**

#### **a. UConn Law Forum**

The UConn Law Forum is scheduled for March 5th, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM in the Starr Reading Room. The event will focus on civil rights, featuring a panel followed by networking opportunities for UConn Law students and legal professionals.

Outreach will be made to the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA) and various affinity bar groups, including the Crawford Black Bar Association, Hispanic Bar Association, and Asian Pacific Bar Association. The goal is to build on the success of the November event by targeting law students and connecting with legal professionals from these organizations.

The event format will include a 45-minute to 1-hour panel, followed by time for networking. The conversation will center on civil rights issues, particularly how profiling impacts clients and their experiences in the legal system. The aim is to provide space for attorneys to share ideas and engage with one another.

Logistics are being finalized, including catering and room setup. Invitations with a registration link will be sent out, and the flyer will be ready soon to assist with event promotion.

b. Cheshire, Enfield, and East Hartford

An update was provided on the upcoming forums in Cheshire, Enfield, and East Hartford. The forum in Cheshire is scheduled for Thursday, January 30th, at the Cheshire Public Library, with doors opening at 6:00 PM and the event starting at 6:30 PM. The forum is co-sponsored by the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) and the Commission on Racial and Ethnic Disparities. It will feature a presentation on Connecticut's efforts to address racial profiling, followed by a moderated discussion led by Chairman Dyson with panelists such as Cheryl Sharp, Chief Dryfe, and others. Gail Hardy mentioned she would check back with Justice Harper to see if he wants to suggest a representative for the Cheshire Public Forum but confirmed she would attend and represent the Commission.

For the upcoming forums, the East Hartford event will take place on March 20th at the Wickham Library, and the Enfield forum is scheduled for May 22nd. Flyers for the entire series have been distributed, and CHRO has been promoting the events through both email and in-person outreach efforts, ensuring the information reaches those affected.

In East Hartford, Chief Hawkins and officers from the East Hartford Police Department will participate, and Chief Fox is expected to ensure participation from the Enfield Police Department.

c. State agency outreach for website inclusion of CTRP3 information

Gail Hardy provided an update that they are awaiting recommendations from the Division of Criminal Justice regarding proposed changes to the website. The DMV currently has accurate information on their site, while the Chief State's Attorney's Office has an outdated page on racial profiling complaints. Updating this page will be the next priority, and efforts will continue to identify other relevant agencies for engagement.

IV. General Discussion

a. Website Redesign and Data Updates

Valerie and Erica are working on redesigning the website to simplify its layout and make it easier for the public to access key information. The new design will follow UConn's blue and white color scheme, keeping important components but significantly changing the look.

A new page will highlight Alvin W. Penn's legacy, including his role in creating Connecticut's first anti-racial profiling law. Quotes from Eyvonne Parker-Bair will be included to reflect his impact.

The data site is also being revamped to provide easier access to traffic stop data, with improved filtering and visual summaries. The current site, which is difficult to navigate, will be replaced with a more user-friendly version.

A preview of the updated site will be shared in the next two weeks for feedback before it goes live. The goal is to make the site more accessible and simpler to use.

There was no further discussion, and the meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.