

Community Outreach Subcommittee

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 29, 2022

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Zoom

Community Outreach Subcommittee Present: Gail Hardy (Chair), Chief LJ Fusaro, Daniel Parlapiano, Ana Mitchell, Rashad Glass, Rachel Timm, Piotr Milczek, Cheryl Sharp, Kristen Daniels, Andrew Clark, Rachel Timm

Staff: Ken Barone, Erica Escobar

Guest: Commissioner Tony Guerrero, Eyvonne Parker-Bair

I. Welcome & Introductions

Gail Hardy convened the meeting at 10:04 a.m. and asked members to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of the January 25, 2023, minutes

Rachel Timm made a motion to approve the January 25, 2023, meeting minutes and it was seconded by Ana Mitchell. The minutes were approved by members via voice vote.

III. Old Business

a. NYU Traffic Stop Data Dashboard

The contract with NYU has been finalized. NYU data analysts will be joining the Community Outreach Subcommittee's next meeting to share updates on Traffic Stop Data Dashboard. No further updates were provided.

IV. General Discussion

a. Public Outreach Activities

Ken Barone reports to Community Outreach Subcommittee members that Ana Mitchel will assist with organizing the public forums. He adds that they have also partnered with CHRO to organize these public forums together. Ken recommends putting together three public forums per year and stated that he would like to host the first public forum in Middletown. Ana expresses that she'd like to find a location within the community where community members would feel the most comfortable.

She also proposes the month of May or June to have the first public forum. Gail agreed that hosting the first forum in May or June in Middletown would be great.

i. National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice

Ken recommends discussing the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice at the May 31, 2023, Community Outreach Subcommittee's meeting. He expresses if members have time to review the reconciliation training that the communities went through as something that could potentially be considered in bringing to Connecticut.

ii. Legal notice card language

Ken states more legal notice cards were ordered with minor language changes to them. He adds that there is a bill before the legislature that will redefine racial profiling. Whether or not the language changes, Ken states, he will order more legal notice cards.

iii. Information sharing through DMV.

Ken Barone gave a brief overview of the topic of the legal notice card language. He mentions that there have been complaints about the legal notice card not getting into the hands of motorists. The Community Outreach Committee's goal is to figure out if there are other ways of embedding the language into the electronic ticket or warning with the help of the DMV. Ken asks guests from the DMV if it would be possible for them to craft language on traffic stops and people's rights under the Alvin W. Penn Law. Barone suggests the crafted language could be included in information routinely provided to CT registered vehicle owners or those possessing licenses.

Commissioner Tony Guerrero suggests providing the information online to ensure the likelihood of the information reaching its targeted audience. Gail Hardy agrees that providing information online would be convenient. Ana Mitchel stresses the importance of considering those who are unable to access computers or are computer illiterate to ensure the information reaches them too. Tiffany suggests providing information on the DMV's 'Driver Services' webpages especially those related to license suspension and other licensing issues as they are often used by individuals who may have been stopped. Cheryl asks Eyvonne Parker-Bair if she has any suggestions to make the language stand out to reflect a sense of urgency to its readers.

Eyvonne Parker-Bair suggests a postcard as an effective way to ensure vital information reaches CT vehicle owners and license owners as a recent study, they've conducted has shown them to be the most successful. Parker-Bair also expressed that using red colored font tends to get the attention of its readers far more than when it is not. Eyvonne suggests reaching out to other

state agencies besides DMV to add the information to their state agency's most visited web pages. DMV Commissioner recommends including the information along with the letters regarding tax information on vehicles for municipalities. The gravity of the information would prevent the letters from being easily dismissed and information from being unseen.

Ken Barone suggests crafting language for state agencies like DMV can consider placing on their website in the place they think would be the most appropriate. He also recommends working to identify other state pages that should incorporate this relevant to motor vehicle drivers. He adds looking into how to include information in tax notices would be helpful to explore. As well as considering how to encourage municipal websites to add traffic stop information and people's rights under the Alvin Penn Law to their webpage. Eyvonne Parker-Bair will serve as an optional representative from the Department of Motor Vehicles on the Community Outreach Subcommittee.

There was no further discussion, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.