

Community Outreach Subcommittee MINUTES

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Zoom

Subcommittee Members Present: Gail Hardy, Rashad Glass, Eyvonne Parker-Bair, Cheryl Sharp, Piotr Milczek, Ana Mitchell, Chief LJ Fusaro

Staff: Ken Barone, Erica Escobar

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Gail Hardy called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. Approval of the April 24, 2024, minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from April 24, 2024. The minutes were unanimously approved by members via voice vote.

III. New Business

a. Next public forum- Danbury area and Tribal forum

Ana Mitchell updated members on the next public forum. She is waiting for a response from the Danbury Public Library and plans to schedule the event for September 18th, avoiding Labor Day and the first two weeks of September. She will finalize arrangements and begin outreach once the date is confirmed.

Ken updated members about planning additional public forums for 2024. Ana suggested scheduling another forum before the end of the year, potentially in Cheshire, as it has not been visited recently and could provide a unique opportunity. The group agreed that Cheshire, along with Danbury, would be a valuable location to explore. They decided to aim for a forum in Cheshire in late October or early November.

Ken noted the need to be proactive in planning and thanked members for their input. He will work with Ana to finalize details and secure venues for the upcoming forums. Ken updated members on the Tribal Forum. The Mohegan Tribal Council prefers a closed meeting with Advisory Board members rather than a public forum. The session will focus on hearing concerns from reservation residents, especially about perceived police bias. Ken is coordinating with the council to decide on including Montville or Ledger police and will provide more details once available. The meeting is planned for late August or early fall.

b. State agency outreach for website inclusion of CTRP3 information

Ken updated members on the inclusion of CTRP3 information on state agency websites. He highlighted recent progress with the DMV, which has added CTRP3 links to several high-traffic pages, including vehicle registration renewal, new vehicle registration, and driver's license renewal. He proposed using the DMV template to approach other state agencies and municipal police departments. He suggested starting with the State Police, the Office of the Chief State's Attorney, and the Office of the Chief Public Defender. Additionally, he recommended reaching out to the Department of Social Services and possibly the Judicial Branch to explore similar inclusions.

Cheryl will verify if CTRP3 information is already included on the CHRO's website and will provide a list of state agencies from a previous event for further outreach. Ken and Erica will develop a universal request template based on the DMV example to streamline the process.

c. 2022 Report Release Feedback/ Media Coverage

Ken updated the Community Outreach Subcommittee on the 2022 report release. The report received coverage from WTNH, Fox 61, and the Connecticut Post. IMRP Communications Manager, Valerie created a highlight sheet and press release for the report. Feedback on these materials is welcome. The committee plans to respond with an op-ed to address the Post's coverage. Bill Dyson will likely write the op-ed, which will emphasize the advancements made and ongoing efforts to improve transparency and accountability.

IV. General Discussion

a. Updates to data dashboard/ public portal

The data dashboard and public portal were briefly reviewed by the committee. Additional discussions on improvements will occur during our next meeting.

There were no additional comments and the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.