

Minutes

Public Service and Trust Commission Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency

The Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency met at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, Room 204 on January 20, 2012.

Those in attendance were:

Committee members: Hon. Richard A. Robinson (Chair), Paul Bourdoulous, Troy Brown, Karen Chorney, Esther Harris, Precious Hyland, Eileen Meehan, Stephen Ment, Ines Nieves, Phil Strambler, Shawna Woodard.

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by Judge Robinson.

1. The minutes from the meeting on December 16, 2011 were unanimously approved.
2. Committee members updated the committee on several activities taking place within the Judicial Branch that are related to the topic of cultural competency. Including an update on:
 - DMHAS Cohort. Two members of the committee, as well as CSSD and Support Enforcement staff members, are currently attending or previously attended this training. Committee members brought the committee up to date on their experience and how this experience has helped .
 - The Pillars ADA training now has a cultural competency component.
 - A discussion of the Seven Habits program and how cultural competency components have been incorporated in this program as well.
 - CSSD shared how participation in the cohort provided a foundation for much of the Division's cultural competency efforts as well
3. The intranet website activities were updated. It was decided to post the Focus Group summaries and focus group feedback results so that all members of the Branch, but particularly the focus group participants, could obtain them on line. The email box has been tested, and Shawna Woodward agreed to monitor the box for the first month.
4. The Committee was updated on the Compliance Coordinator, formerly Affirmative Action Coordinator, Program. Training of the new coordinators is planned for February, with further discussion on the training of interview panels.
5. The agenda item regarding additional focus groups and updating external groups will be carried forward to the next meeting.
6. The Committee began the process of establishing the Training and Education Subcommittee. Discussion as to the curricula to be developed and what resources are available took place. The Subcommittee's membership, structure and chairs will be left to the subcommittee to determine.

7. The agenda item regarding the Cultural Competency policy statement is to be carried forward to the next meeting.
8. Judge Robinson, Paul Bourdoulous, Eileen Meehan and Shawna Woodard will draft the report to the Chief Justice.

The Committee has scheduled its meetings for the third Friday of the month. Rooms have been reserved for the year 2012, and an email with the dates was sent to all committee members. The next meeting will be February 17, 2012, at 10:00, in room 204 at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.20 p.m.