

# CONNECTICUT JUDICIAL BRANCH

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CULTURAL COMPETENCY

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March 28, 2017  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
225 Spring Street, Room 204  
Wethersfield

### MINUTES

#### **Attendees**

Isabel Alvarez, Troy Brown, Samuel Bruder, Alison Chandler, Karen Chorney, Esther Harris, Zarin Kapur, Ines Nieves, Philip Strambler, Ewa Wojewodzki, Shawna Woodard, Meghan Korn (Guest)

#### **Welcome and Approval of Minutes**

Shawna Woodard, acting in Justice Robinson's absence, commenced the meeting at 2:10 p.m. and welcomed the Committee members and guests.

The Committee members unanimously approved the meeting minutes from January 28, 2017.

#### **2017 Diversity Week Report**

Zarin Kapur, co-chair of the Diversity Week Workgroup, reported on the planning status for Diversity Week 2017. She presented a few titles and themes under consideration and committee members had the opportunity to provide input. Zarin reported that additional afternoon time was being considered for the Opening Celebration but noted that it is still early in the process in terms of confirmed speakers and topics. The application for the use of the Legislative Office Building facilities was submitted and approval is pending. Zarin also confirmed that the Opening Celebration is on the calendars belonging to the Chief Justice, Judge Carroll, Judge Solomon, and all of the Executive Directors.

#### **ACCC Mission Statement Report**

This topic was tabled until Justice Robinson could be present.

#### **Membership**

This topic was tabled until Justice Robinson could be present.

#### **What's Happening?**

ACCC Video – Karen Chorney

The Branch anticipates a decision from the State Justice Institute by April 17 regarding the ACCC's grant application to fund this project.

#### **Spring Lunch & Learn – T. Brown, J. Halepas, P. Strambler**

This program will be piloted with the full committee membership before opening it for registration Branch wide. Potential dates for the pilot offering in late April and early May were

discussed. A definitive date based on the maximum availability of committee members will be scheduled and distributed.

### **New Business (New ACCC Initiatives, Announcements, etc.)**

In his absence, it was announced that Justice Robinson:

- Will be a presenter at the Connecticut Bar Association's Diversity Symposium on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the UCONN School of Law.
- Will receive the Connecticut Bar Association's Henry J. Naruk Judicial Award on April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Aqua Turf Club

Troy Brown announced:

- His thanks for the support and participation of Committee members at CSSD events held during Black History Month.
- The presentation Rooting for Tarzan is being held at Post University on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- He will be presenting Unfiltered Conversations On Race on April 19<sup>th</sup> in Middletown at the request of the Middletown Racial Justice Coalition.
- There will be a screening of Netflix's 13<sup>th</sup> at the Middletown Public Library on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m., and he will facilitate a post-screening discussion.
- He, Karen Chorney and Meghan Korn will be attending a one-day training program in New York conducted by the organization "Race Forward" entitled Building Racial Equity on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Shawna added that Troy and Karen will share with the ACCC some information that they learned.
- He would like for the Committee to consider adding time to regularly scheduled meetings two times per year for the education of ACCC members.

Karen Chorney announced that:

- The last week of March is Diversity Week at the UCONN School of Law. Members of the public are welcome to attend.
- She is registered to attend a presentation by Hayden Kristal entitled GaySL: A Crash Course in LGBTQ American Sign Language being conducted on April 5<sup>th</sup> at UCONN in Storrs.

### **Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.