

Minutes  
Public Service and Trust Commission  
Committee on Access

February 7, 2008

The Committee on Access of the Public Service and Trust Commission met in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor conference room at Superior Court, 90 Washington St., Hartford, CT.

Those present: Ms. Beth Bickley, Mr. Joseph Camilleri, Ms. Lisa Holden, Judge Joseph Shortall (co-chair), Atty. Toni Smith-Rosario (co-chair), and Mr. Alex Wood.

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM.

1. The first agenda item was the review and approval of the minutes. Upon motion and second, the minutes were approved as distributed.
2. The next agenda item was a discussion of the outcome goal. Drafts of the outcome goal provided by each committee member had been circulated prior to the meeting, and copies also were provided at the meeting. A discussion ensued regarding the nature and quantity of information that should be included in the goal, the best way to create a goal that encompasses all the areas included in the committee charge, and how to state the goal so that it addresses the problems and issues raised by the materials the commission has gathered. In general, the outcome goal would address eliminating barriers to access to court facilities, processes, and information while recognizing privacy interests and emphasizing the need for sensitivity on the part of Judges and Judicial Branch staff to the diverse needs of the people coming into the courts. After review of the drafts and discussion, the co-chairs volunteered to rework the draft goal, incorporating the substance of the discussions, and circulate the re-draft prior to the next meeting of the committee.
3. The next agenda item was a discussion on the development of strategies. Rather than setting up subcommittees to review the information, the committee decided to have each member of the committee review the trends and impacts based upon his or her particular areas of expertise and interest. Based upon the stated interests of the committee members, each of the three broad categories (increasing obsolescence of facilities, increasing challenges to physical access, and the growing tension between the right to know and the right to privacy) will be covered by the committee, which recognized that barriers to physical access include those faced by individuals with physical, linguistic and mental health limitations. The draft trends and strategies will be circulated in advance of the next meeting.
4. Staff reported that a presentation on the development of performance measures was available and would be helpful to the committee as it continues to develop all parts of the outcome goal, strategies, and activities. That presentation will be done at the next meeting of the committee on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM.
5. An additional meeting of the committee has been scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.