

Minutes

Public Service and Trust Commission Committee on Cultural Competency

January 22, 2010

The Committee on Cultural Competency met at 225 Spring Street in conference room 4B in Wethersfield on January 22, 2010.

Those in attendance: Hon. Richard A. Robinson (Chair), Hon. Jon M. Alander, Ms. Linda J. Cimino, Atty. Sandra Davis, Atty. Linda A. Dow, Hon. David P. Gold, Ms. Diane Hatfield, Ms. Sharon Moye-Johnson, Hon. Maria Araujo Kahn, Atty. Susan Marks, Ms. Hilda Nieves, Ms. Robyn N. Oliver, Ms. Dalia Panke, Hon. Barbara M. Quinn, Hon. Kevin A. Randolph, Hon. Antonio C. Robaina, Hon. Dan Shaban, Atty. James Chen Tsui

Judge Alexandra D. DiPentima, Judge Patrick L. Carroll III, Atty. Joseph D'Alesio, Ms. Esther Harris and Ms. Eileen Meehan were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 9:22 AM by Judge Robinson.

1. Judge Robinson welcomed the members in attendance and introduced Ms. Sharon Moye-Johnson as a new committee member.
2. The minutes from the November 4, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.
3. Judge DiPentima provided an overview of how the Judicial Branch's Strategic Plan was developed. During the development of the Plan, the Judicial Branch conducted numerous focus groups to gather information. One of the topics that continually arose was that of cultural competency, which led to the creation of this committee.
4. Attorney D'Alesio explained the process of how the affinity diagram exercise worked.
5. Attorney D'Alesio and Judge DiPentima led the committee through the affinity diagram exercise, generating ideas associated with the question: "What are the issues associated with developing an ongoing, comprehensive training curriculum on cultural competency for every judge, family support magistrate and Judicial Branch employee?"
6. The committee then grouped all the ideas generated under 9 headers: (1) Defining Cultural Competency; (2) Training and Curriculum Development; (3) Assessment of Need; (4) Workforce Development; (5) Overcoming and Removing Internal Barriers; (6) External Perceptions and Involvement; (7) Developing Outcome Measures; (8) Commitment of Time and Resources; and (9) Coordination of Branch Efforts.
7. Attorney D'Alesio and Judge DiPentima led the committee through an interrelationship digraph exercise to prioritize the groupings. As a result of the exercise, the committee

prioritized the groupings as follows: (1) Defining Cultural Competency; (2a) External Perceptions and Involvement; (2b) Assessment of Need; (3) Commitment of Time and Resources; (4a) Coordination of Branch Efforts; (4b) Developing Outcome Measures; (4c) Workforce Development; (5a) Training and Curriculum Development; (5b) Overcoming and Removing Internal Barriers.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 AM.