

Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 7, 2:00 PM
IMRP Conference Room
185 Main St, Room 212
New Britain, CT

Members Present: *Robert J. Devlin (chair), John Santa (vice chair), Robert Farr, Christine Rapillo, Sarah Russell, Patrick L. Carroll, Eleanor Michael*

Guest: *Professor Stephen Ross*

Staff: *Alex Tsarkov (Executive Director), Van Augur, Cynthia Samokar*

MINUTES

I. MEETING CONVENED

The meeting was convened at 2:05 P.M.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 9.6.2019 MEETING

The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. DISPARITIES STUDY PER SPECIAL ACT 19-17

Professor Stephen Ross presented a draft scope for the Commission's study on disparities pursuant to Special Act 19-17. Professor Ross answered committee members' questions about the study and received feedback for revising the scope.

IV. SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY PROPOSAL

Alex Tsarkov updated the Committee on the status of the Commission's sex offender registry reform proposal. Alex has been discussing the proposal with state legislators and has begun working with staff from LCO and OLR to address technical concerns with the proposal.

V. 2020 STEERING AND COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE

Alex Tsarkov shared the 2020 schedule for the Steering Committee and the Sentencing Commission.

VI. INCARCERATION AND THE COLLATERAL CONSEQUENCES OF CRIMINAL CONVICTION SUBCOMMITTEE

John Santa and Sarah Russell updated members on the Subcommittee's recent

discussions on the costs of incarceration, automatic record erasure, and the obstacles offenders face when trying to obtain occupational licenses. Eleanor Michael noted that Governor Lamont is interested in exploring automatic record expungement, and may pursue an erasure proposal in the upcoming legislative session.

VII. VOTING RIGHTS WORKING GROUP

Sarah Russell updated the committee on the voting rights working group, which had recently conducted voter registration and absentee ballot drives at York Correctional Institute to identify the issues faced by pretrial detainees and incarcerated misdemeanants when voting.

VIII. PRETRIAL RELEASE AND DETENTION

Robert Devlin updated the committee on the last meeting of the pretrial release and detention working group. The committee discussed some of the concerns that members of the group have with the current and potential alternative bail systems.

IX. MENTAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE

Alex updated the committee on the first meeting of the mental health subcommittee formed to complete the study requested by Senator Osten. The subcommittee is currently drafting a study scope.

X. SYMPOSIUM ON RACIAL, ETHNIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC DISPARITIES

The symposium will be held on January 17th. Alex Tsarkov is working on the funding, and the agenda is nearly ready for distribution.

XI. MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34.