

Champaign County Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 28, 2017
6:30 pm

I. Call to Order

Sara Balgoyen called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Eight members were present at this time.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: S. Balgoyen, L. Branham, S. Byndom, E. Dee, R. Hughes, A. James, E. Patt, S. Silver, D. Turner.

Members Absent: M. Ar-Raheem, A. Felty, S. Lerner, C. Randolph, H. Ross, G. Walter.

III. Approval of Agenda

Esther Patt moved to approve agenda. Artice James seconded. The motion carried.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Artice moved to approve the minutes. Esther seconded the motion. The motion carried.

V. Public Participation

There were no public comments at this time.

VI. Presentations

No presentations.

VII. New Business

Review draft report and deadlines

Sara and Sam met with Rick Snider to discuss budget items. They spoke about the data portal and a dedicated person to oversee it, as well as staff time for coordinating recommendations. The County already has a person doing half time on another project and could possibly work on the data portal. They are working on a structure of government that could take on some of the continued work of the recommendations.

The group discussed the best way to continue the work of the RJTF, including County Board committees, a Restorative and Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, and a Community Engagement Commission (as recommended by the Community Engagement Subcommittee).

Esther moved to add a specific recommendation to the report to create a Restorative and Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC). The group did not move forward with this motion because a recommendation for the CJCC was included with the Restorative Justice section.

The group then reviewed the outline for the introduction. Esther recommended removing references to subcommittees. The group discussed the order of the subsections within the report. Artice said that we should include the community forum comments in the executive summary.

Sam Byndom had to leave at 7:18pm.

The introduction should include explanations of why people joined (the variety of issues to be investigated). It should also include notes about the community outreach that was performed and that the group worked with no budget and almost no support. Sara moved to make the following list the order of the report. Lynn seconded the motion. The motion carried by vocal vote.

1. Community Engagement
2. Police Practices
3. Pretrial Confinement
4. Fees and Costs
5. Restorative Justice
6. Juvenile Justice
7. Housing
8. Voices of Community

The group then discussed the outline of the introduction. Esther moved to approve the outline of the introduction. Lynn suggested including that we sought information from criminal justice officials. The motion carried by vocal vote. Items remaining: overarching recommendations (Sara), definitions, history, community engagement, stakeholders' involvement. Sara and Sam will work on the rest of the introduction. Esther will write something about the community forums.

VIII. Adjournment

Artice moved to adjourn.