



Restoring Relations

**Community Advisory Board (CAB), City Hall, Montpelier**  
**Minutes of June 4, 2019 meeting – by Yvonne Byrd from notes by Judy Gibson**

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CAB Members present: June, Cindy, Townes, Mattie, Melanie, Stephanie

CAB Members absent: Pat, Tony, Connie, Jody, Conor, Ryan, Steve, Jamie, Nora

Visitors: Merry Shernock, Natasha Eckart Baning, Northfield residents

Staff: Yvonne, Judy

ITEM	ACTION
<b>5:00</b> Welcome & Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions were made and two Northfield residents were present to join the discussion about next steps in Northfield</li> </ul>
<b>5:10</b> Administrative business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda was approved as written</li> <li>• Due to lack of a quorum, minutes from 4/4/19 meeting were not approved</li> <li>• Sarika Tandon is interested in joining the CAB and Yvonne recommends that she be invited to do so. A decision could not be made due to the lack of a quorum so Yvonne will conduct an email voting process.</li> <li>• The proposed quarterly meeting schedule for FY '20 is Oct 1, Jan 7, Mar 31, June 30. Yvonne will send an email to all members seeking approval.</li> </ul>
<b>5:15</b> CAB meeting in Northfield	<p><b>CAB meeting in Northfield:</b> Natasha reported being frustrated by not being able to speak until late in the meeting and wondered if there was follow-up on the questions she asked about racial bias in policing and racism in Northfield. Yvonne mentioned that many of those would need to be answered by the Chief of Police and Rowly had volunteered at the April meeting to be an intermediary to help get answers.</p>

	<p>The connection with police was very positive for the MCJC—we have received eight direct referrals since then. Natasha reported on the work she is doing at the elementary school to address racism in the curriculum. Discussion about separate nature of college vs town. Melanie added that there have always been divisions and she thinks it is intentional.</p> <p>June talked about possibly connecting with the non-military students since they are often the majority.</p> <p>Natasha wants the social justice aspect to be present in schools. Training is needed on equity in all areas and should include Norwich Security and NPD. Stephanie Jean talked about VSP Sgt. Miller partnering with the NAACP and wanting to bring training to local police. Yv suggested that Sarika could be a resource because of the work she is doing with the MHS community. Townes talked about the response to racial incidents at U32—students don't want to report it.</p> <p>Yv talked about the school referring students directly in lieu of suspensions, other disciplinary action. Melanie said there will be a new principal at Northfield HS so we should reach out to her.</p> <p><b>Next step: Meet with new principal of middle-high school.</b> Melanie and Natasha will take the lead on this and MCJC will respond when Melanie and Natasha ask for help.</p> <p><b>Next step: Yvonne will reach out to Rowly about his work with NPD and Norwich and possible training.</b></p> <p>Merry mentioned talking with game wardens about having them represented on panels and get referrals to the RJP. Perhaps follow up with this for the whole area rather than Northfield-specific because community is affected.</p>
<p><b>5:45</b> CAB meeting in Waterbury / Valley region</p>	<p><b>Waterbury meeting</b>—maybe not do it as a CAB meeting, but rather a general informational meeting. Cindy mentioned the two VSP officers assigned to Waterbury need to be included. <b>Judy should find out who they are and reach out.</b> Include people from Harwood also.</p> <p>What do we want to accomplish? Spread the concept of community-</p>

	<p>based action to embrace restorative practices. Label it “Washington West.” Waitsfield, Warren, Fayston, Duxbury, Waterbury, Waterbury Center. Meet at Harwood? Jody might be able to help with contacts at the school. Try to uncover <b>specific issues</b> that are important to all the communities and promote the meeting that way.</p> <p>Try to pull it together for a September meeting.</p>
<p><b>6:15</b> CJC operations updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State of statewide CJC issues</li> </ul> <p>DOC is studying the viability of Work Crew after finding out that the Senate passed a [resolution/bill/?] to put it under the CJC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MCJC’s training of youth for RJ</li> </ul> <p>Two students are trained – CAB members Townes and Nora. MCJC will strive to train at least 5 students annually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referral #s and other data</li> </ul> <p>Stephanie Jean talked about what they are doing to encourage reparative conditions in sentencing. Judge Mary Morrissey will continue in Barre, so there will be continuity.</p> <p><b>To do:</b> Judy email all volunteers about needing more volunteers for panels.</p>
<p><b>6:35</b> Succession planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss anticipated need</li> </ul> <p>Succession: Tony is leaving in April 2020. Yv will be leaving in June 2020. Judy is less certain of her date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider CAB’s desired outcome &amp; role</li> </ul> <p><b>To do:</b> review the Director Job Description at the next meeting to be sure it is still accurate and reflects what all want in the position.</p> <p>CAB needs to be strong and well-functioning when the change takes place. Discuss in October what it will take to keep the CAB vibrant.</p>
<p><b>6:50</b> Next steps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify any follow up actions, agenda items for next meeting</li> </ul> <p>Meeting in September in Washington West will be separate from the fall CAB business meeting.</p> <p>October CAB Meeting: Director job description, check in on Northfield</p>

	next steps, debrief Washington West meeting, youth RJ forum? Recruitment of new panel members.
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