



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
 Executive Office of Public Safety and Security  
 One Ashburton Place, Room 2133  
 Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Tel: (617) 727-7775  
 TTY Tel: (617) 727-6618  
 Fax: (617) 727-4764  
[www.mass.gov/eops](http://www.mass.gov/eops)

CHARLES D. BAKER  
 Governor

THOMAS A. TURCO, III  
 Secretary

KARYN E. POLITO  
 Lt. Governor

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Date:** March 9, 2021

**Time:** 11:00AM-1:00PM

**Microsoft Teams Virtual Location:** [Click here to join the meeting](#)

**Or call in (audio only) 857-327-9245 Phone Conference ID:** 340 146 417#

**Agenda Items:**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Andrew Peck at 11:09am.

		<u>Video/Call</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<b>1</b>	<b>Chair-</b> Andrew Peck	X	
<b>2</b>	Scott Taberner	X	
<b>3</b>	Rep. Sean Garballey	X	
<b>4</b>	Sen. James Eldridge	X	
<b>5</b>	Becky Michaels	X	
<b>6</b>	Allison S. Cartwright (*)	X	
<b>7</b>	John Millett	X	
<b>8</b>	Ret. Chief Fred Ryan		X
<b>9</b>	Diane Coffey	X	
<b>10</b>	Mary Quinn	X	
<b>11</b>	Judge Rosemary Minehan	X	
<b>12</b>	Kara Hayes	X	
<b>13</b>	Carolyn Boyes-Watson		X
<b>14</b>	Erin Freeborn	X	
<b>15</b>	Cheis Garrus		X
<b>16</b>	Susan Jeghelian	X	
<b>17</b>	Strong Oak Lefebvre	X	

(\*) Allison joined the meeting at noon

**EOPSS Staff:** Anjeza Xhemollari, Arielle Mullaney and EOPSS intern Katie Queally

**Others in attendance:** Over 10+ members of the public attend the open meeting.

**2. Welcome**

Chairman Andrew Peck welcomed all committee members and attendance was taken.

### **3. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2021**

Roll call was taken to approve the meeting minutes. All present members voted in favor to accept the meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

### **4. Update from the Planning Subcommittee**

Becky Michaels-Chair of the Planning Subcommittee. Becky updated the Committee by stating that all future meetings will have a rotating Chair. Erin will Chair the next meeting. The meetings will be conducted in circle format and she invited members of the public to attend and openly participate during the meeting. She hopes that public members attend those meetings and speak at those meetings.

The meetings will be held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month starting at noon. The agenda for April 27, 2021 will have questions directly taken from the legislation. The questions for the public members are:

1. Discussion: What do you believe the purpose/mission of the RJAC should be?
2. Discussion: The Legislature directed that the RJAC “may monitor and assist all community-based restorative justice programs to which a juvenile or adult defendant may be diverted.” What does ‘assist’ mean to you?”

Chairman Andrew Peck asked if there was a timetable on when we might have objects?

Becky Michaels indicated that a timeline was not established. The Subcommittee decided to listen from public members first and plan on what the community needs. She hopes that the questions are something that everyone could talk about and share with the Committee later.

Mary Quinn also talked about the importance of hearing other voices and helping us to be more inclusive. She encourages everyone to attend the meetings.

Erin Freeborn stated that Planning Subcommittee will dovetail nicely with the Questionnaire Subcommittee and then we can bring in the input from the broader community. At that time, the Committee will know what conversations we need to be having. She thinks there will be a lot of progress in our next conversation.

Susan Jeghelian is happy to hear all the good work. She likes the approach of inviting members of the public attend the meeting and participate and sharing the duties of the Chair.

### **5. Update from the Questionnaire Subcommittee**

Kara Hayes-Chair of the Questionnaire Subcommittee. Kara provided a quick update about the survey as she had technical difficulties joining the virtual meeting. Kara indicated that the survey is complete and she wants people to understand that this will be a multi-step process. We need to do a deeper dive past the first inquiry. She encourages members of the public to come to the Questionnaire Subcommittee meeting and help us inform the process. Come to meetings and help us to be better connected to the voices on the table. There are layers and steps to this process. Deeper dive that is still to be determined. Also thinking about the logistics of coming together. Thinking about the best way to come together for a meeting and honor our public record mandate and the public voices. She turned it over to Strong Oak and Judge Rosemary Minehan for additional updates.

Strong Oak started the conversation by trying to figure out how we are going to reach all these folks? We figured that people could send it to someone else and so on. They are invited to pass the questionnaire onto other people. Also looking at the bigger committee about any people we may have missed.

Judge Rosemary Minehan agreed with Strong Oak. How do you get this out there? That is a daunting task. She thought that it is a really good idea that people send it to other people because she is worried that we will miss people. She wants to know if anyone has any thoughts on how to cast the widest net possible.

Chairman Andrew Peck indicated that he has some thoughts, and he is open to comments and feedback. He thought we could compartmentalize, and we could work with all the committee members we have to reach many different areas. For example, Ret. Chief Fred Ryan could send it to MCOPA to send to organizations in

that area. Strong Oak does a lot of community work so maybe Strong Oak could manage that area with her networks. John Millet would be able to help with probation. We could have our members work with their various areas to help spread the survey in that area. But in terms of bigger and border I am not sure, but I am all ears.

Kara Hayes thought maybe Jane Doe and MOVA could be helpful as well. She would also push to our community members that are in regular attendance to make sure we are doing the best we can.

Strong Oak stated that Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition is hosting a free virtual national summit on May 11-13, 2021 titled Transformative/Restorative Circle Practices on Healing and Thriving Together in Community. She will be able to point out this survey and be able to send in a request to get this survey out. She hopes a lot of people will attend. It will be a dynamic conversation.

Chairman Andrew Peck asked for any other ideas on how to create even more outreach and have a bigger grasp and bigger net?

Scott Taberner will connect with DYS, DCF and DMH. Mary Quinn will connect with Mass Sheriffs Association. John Millett will connect with Children's Legal Organization and JDEI.

Chairman Andrew Peck asked for any feedback on the survey. If not, we need to create some sort of an introductory email to go along with the link for the survey and explain the goal of what we are trying to do. Maybe the questionnaire subcommittee can hammer out the email and have it ready for this April, our next meeting so that we can launch in April. If that sounds good for everyone.

After some discussion, the Questionnaire Subcommittee was given full permission by the Committee to create an introductory email and launch the survey in March. Roll call was taken and all members agreed.

## **6. Review of Open Meeting Law**

Arielle Mullaney starts the review of Open Meeting Law by stating that open meeting law applies to you all right now. The Committee cannot meet without a quorum and Anjeza must post your agenda and the public has the right to be present. The agenda must be posted 48 hours prior to the meeting. There are certain rules we must follow. Subcommittee meetings (even with 4-5 members) they are still treated like the normal committee meetings. Anjeza will schedule all meetings. She will send email. You could respond with your availability but **DO NOT** reply all. Respond to her directly. No one has done anything wrong and just wanted to give a friendly reminder. Simply majority is for a quorum. And if anyone has any questions please always ask and the Attorney General' Office has a guide that could be forwarded.

## **7. Public Comment (10 minutes)**

Jill – Expressed her gratitude to push for public attendance of the subcommittees. She is very excited and does not think there are any community based restorative justice committees in Plymouth.

Brenda Nolan- She just wanted to celebrate how wonderful you are all working together. She is thrilled.

Ms. Bonds – asked if the meetings are recording and available? Anjeza- No, this is not recorded. But the agenda is available online.

Kathy- She is really pleased for the subcommittees inviting members of the public. She just wants to make sure the members of the public feel welcome and maybe not to put so much emphasis on titles. It might make some of those public members feel uncomfortable.

## **8. Open Session for Topics not Reasonably Anticipated within 48 Hours of the Meeting**

N/A

## **9. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 12:13pm