

Minutes
Public Service and Trust Commission
Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency
Diversity Day Subcommittee

The Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency, Diversity Day Subcommittee, met at 225 Spring Street, Wethersfield, Room 204, on October 31, 2014.

Those in attendance were: Justice Richard A. Robinson, Chair, Troy Brown, Ewa Wojewodzki, Shawna Woodard, and Alison Zawadski.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

1. The meeting was called to debrief the subcommittee on the activities of Diversity Day and Week.
2. Shawna Woodard discussed the thank you notes to be sent to committee members, venues, presenters.
3. Shawna Woodard also presented some preliminary information from the evaluations completed so far. Themes and comments include:
 - A good job of selecting the week's learning
 - Wanted longer programs, more often, and with more topics.
 - Positive feedback on the half day for the kickoff, as compared to previous full day presentations. Respondents felt they could get away for half a day, but not a whole day.
 - Respondents also asked that 'supervisors need to be made aware of the importance' of the topics and the training. There is a problem, respondents said, in that this is not seen as part of their job.
4. Additional topics were suggested for next year's Diversity Week, including Jamaican culture and Veterans' issues. Discussions centered around what went right and what could be improved in facilities, marketing, scheduling of the day and the week, as well as extensive discussions of content.
5. The question was posed: What is the Future of Diversity Week? The consensus was that there is a strong expectation that there will be a Diversity Week each year. After extensive discussion, it was felt that the committee should commit to doing Diversity Week again next year. The structure hashed out this year can be used again next year, with modifications and improvements. Ideas were presented to present more than once during the year, to present cultural events branch wide, and to establish a calendar similar to CSSD.
6. Questions were raised and discussed on the future composition of the Advisory Committee on Cultural Competency and the Diversity Day Subcommittee. A consensus was reached that the ACCC and its subcommittee should be expanded. It will be an item on the agenda for the full committee meeting.
7. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.