

Correction Advisory Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, March 27, 2023
7:00 PM via Zoom

The following committee members were present:

Melinda Johnson
Tadhg Dooley
Kyisha Velazquez
Reena Kapoor
John Cipolli
Daryl McGraw
Melvin Medina
Andrew Giering
Ben Howell

The following committee members were absent:

John Bowen
Scott Semple

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Co-Chair Melinda Johnson

Co-Chair Johnson asked all committee members to introduce themselves and confirmed that all members had taken their oaths.

Co-Chair Johnson explained that during the last meeting, committee members took their oaths, and recordings of the proceedings were submitted to Aminah Marshall. Additionally, a subcommittee was formed to develop a draft for the ombudsman job description. The draft was previously shared with committee members via email. Co-Chair Johnson proceeded to read section by section of the draft followed by comments and discussion of the same.

Members discussed how the sole statutory requirement was that the individual must be a resident of the state of Connecticut at the time of the interview. Mr. Medina emphasized that the committee should seek candidates with leadership skills and experience in managing people. Additionally, candidates should demonstrate experience within the system and possess a robust advocacy background, investigative skills, and managerial abilities to recruit individuals with these essential skills.

The timeline for recommendations to the Governor was discussed.

There was discussion regarding the job description and notes and comments were made regarding proposed changes to the draft.

The floor was opened for public comment. Suggestions and comments were made regarding the proposed draft. Someone expressed concern regarding the preference of an applicant with experience in

any of the three branches of the government. Another suggestion was to add language that expressed that the candidate should be culturally competent and/or culturally responsive.

A motion was made by Melvin Medina to accept the job description with the necessary or recommended changes and seconded by Benjamin Howell. The motion was approved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Co-Chair Dooley and duly seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.