



Wednesday February 2nd, 2017, 8:30am-10am
YWCA of Central MA, 1 Salem Square

Minutes

Call to order – 8:40 AM

1. **Attendees:** Mable Milner, Bari Boyer, Raquel Castro- Corazzini, Dr. Mattie Castiel, Gladys Rodriguez-Parker, Dr. Alexis Travis, Shelly Yarney, Deborah Gonzales, Ann Lisi, Dr. Malika Carter, Margaret Hurley, Deputy Chief Ed McGinn, Sharon McQueen, Mona Ives, Reverend Jesse Gibson, Jayna Turchek Che Anderson, Craig Mortley, Lamar Brown, DA Ed Karcasinas, Atty Abigail Taylor
2. **Updates from Margaret Hurley- MA Office of Attorney General**
 - a. Temporary order removed ban in certain circumstances
 - b. Hearing on 2/3 on motion to intervene and ban temporary restraining order and expand it so that it will be spread across USA
 - c. Sanctuary Cities
 - i. Other cities will file a challenge against losing federal money
 - ii. Attorney General office cannot represent the city, but will work with cities to assist
 - d. JCC was targeted
 - i. Criminal bureau following up on threats to JCC
 - ii. They communicated with FBI
 - iii. Nationwide investigation because they are nationwide threats
3. **Updates from Gladys Rodriguez-Parker – Congressman McGovern’s Office**
 - a. Working on special cases of travel ban, compiling list of those affected
 - b. Student working on doctorate at WPI cannot get back into the country (has green card)
4. **Groups working on local impact of executive orders**
 - a. Meeting at 12:30pm today at Family Resource Center (Denholm Building) re: impact on families
 - i. Planning info sessions and consultations w/immigration attorneys
 - b. Ascentria and others working on one sheet fact sheet w/ community resources as well as facts about who refugees are and vetting process
 - c. We need to be able to have an inventory of all groups doing similar work on master sheet; an inventory of resources. Reference librarian,

Clark Univ and others working on developing resources, maybe Wiki

5. Spring Forum

- a. Immigration rights?
- b. First Amendment (freedom of religion/freedom to discriminate based on one's religion) or (how to communicate in a digital age- free speech/hate speech)

6. Concerns around 1st amendment

- a. Concern that 1st A could be used to allow for discrimination of LGBTQ, minorities and immigrants; all civil rights.
- b. Statements have been made that people no longer need to be P.C.

7. Steps Moving Forward

- a. What are we going to do moving forward as a group?
- b. We can mobilize to better inform the community?
- c. Should coalition issue a statement in support of the actions that have taken place?
 - i. People are in favor of it. We will issue a statement recognizing meeting last night in support of Mayor statement and actions of council. We are a resource for the community/where we can be reached.
- d. Can we put out an informational card? Brochure in multiple languages.
- e. Can we put out a contact list for all organizations to communicate?

8. Latino challenges training

- a. 2 day workshop for those that work within the Latino community
- b. Focuses on education for people who work with Latino communities. Meant to end racial disparities in our institutions and for people all across racial identities. Mailing will be sent to all past participants of Undoing Racism. See website for the Partnership for Health Equity.
- c. Trainings offered in two languages
 - i. English – June 8-9
 - ii. Spanish – June 10-11
- b. Trainings led by Raul Quinonez

9. Undoing racism workshop– May 18 and 19

Prereq for Latino Challenge. More info coming on DPH website.

10. Abigail Taylor- MA Attorney General's Office

- a. Addressed bias/hate/bullying reporting for youth, school climate issues etc.
- b. **Child and Youth Protection Unit in AG Office** focuses on needs of vulnerable youth on our commonwealth. Prenatal care for vulnerable moms (ie struggling w/addiction) to youth in incarceration. Mostly a

policy unit. Legislative initiative. Programmatic targeted issues and occasional investigation and litigation. Involved in school based complaints of the hotline.

- c. How can we address the insecurity that many students feel?
- i. They can investigate and maintain and respect confidentiality (absent a large public safety concern.)
 - ii. Able to move forward with some complaints that others can not. More informal.
 - iii. Look to know what desired outcome is of complainant.
For example. Dept Ed problem resolution system (DESI) can only be reported if they share info and know that info will be shared with school. Set up around investigation specific complaints about schools not following specific policies.
 - iv. Often refer to other agencies that are better set up to address particular concerns. Fed Dept of Ed Divission of Civil Rights investigated very specific civil rights concerns.
 - v. We are safe place to air what has happened. Staff have broad view of investigatory tools in commonwealth to best inform you of best forum.
 - vi. There is an online intake process. Consumer oriented. Any issue complaint can be filed.
 - vii. Recently see a lot of school based complaints. School admin often contacted. ADL has anti-bias training and trainers. If school district not interested may bring in Dept of Ed. It really is a case by case basis.
 - viii. Good at triangulating resources. Won't be the ones to go into schools and do the training.
 - ix. DESI legislation and guidance for schools protocols regarding bullying. AG will look at school's bullying protocol (in place, robust and followed?) If there was bias, hate element there is another set of laws that overlay. They look at both. Esp around bullying and whether bullying protocol DESI adept at handling that case and they we will in conjunction handle the harassment or hate crime element and may need to be referred criminally (local DA).