

M I N U T E S

MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2020

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

McEaddy Conference Room
12th Floor, 301 N. Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL

Members Present:

Frank Adderley
Marcia Andrews
Barbara Cheives
William Dames
Rachel Docekal
Douglas Duncan
George Elmore
Carey Haughwout
Joseph Ianno, Jr.
Keith James
Kevin Jones
Dave Kerner
Nellie King
Krista Marx
Christina Morrison
Gerald Richman
Greg Starling
Stephen Stepp
Lee Waring
Lauren Whetstone

Members Absent:

Dave Aronberg
Michael Barbercheck
Sharon Bock
Ric Bradshaw
Sheldon Burkett
Ellen Cohen
Justin Fleck
Michelle Johns
Randolph Johnson, Sr.
Kathleen Kroll
Frank Mercurio
Tina Polsky

Guests Attending:

Mike Gauger, PBSO
Louis Tomeo, Clerk & Comptroller's Office
Dr. Angela Bess, PBC School District
Derek Gibson, FL Dept. of Corrections
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
Mike Edmondson, State Attorney's Office
Dave Bernhardt, District 3 BOCC
Debra Oats, Court Administration
Christy Altaro, Court Administration
Latronda Hayes, Public Safety
Jean Williams, County Attorney's Office

Staff Present:

Brad Allen, Criminal Justice Analyst
Jonathan Hackley, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Kristina Henson, Executive Director
Damir Kukec, Manager, Research & Planning
Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant
Jacqueline Schoenfeld, FUSE Program Coordinator
Katherine Shover, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Jon Van Arnam, Deputy County Administrator
Bert Winkler, Manager, Program Development

- I. Chairman Joseph Ianno, Jr. called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to members and guests.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chair Ianno invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The Agenda for the January 27, 2020 meeting was unanimously approved upon a motion by Mr. George Elmore and a second by Mayor Keith James.
- V. The Minutes of the December 16, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved upon a motion by Rev. Kevin Jones and a second by Mayor Keith James.

VI. Chairman's Comments

- A. Chair Joseph Ianno, Jr. announced the retirement of Executive Director Kristina Henson, effective June 1, 2020.
- B. Chair Ianno bid farewell to FBI Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) Justin Fleck. The new ASAC is Mr. Thomas J. Jones, who is expected for the CJC February 24 meeting.

VII. Executive Director Comments:

- A. Executive Director Henson announced the updated 2020 Organizational chart of the various subcommittees of the CJC.
- B. Executive Director Henson announced distribution of the 2018 CJC Annual Report to all members and guests.
- C. Executive Director Henson announced on January 29, 2020 the CJC Community Engagement Team will host with partner agencies a Racial Equity Institute Alumni discussion of next steps to further goals and objectives in various communities.
- D. Executive Director Henson announced the next partnership event on February 22, 2020 with the Community Engagement Team and the Palm Beach County

Library is a screening of the film “Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools”, followed by a panel discussion.

VIII. Old Business:

- A. Chairman Ianno recognized Mr. Bert Winkler who gave an overview of the Pretrial Risk Assessment Tool. Mr. Winkler explained that the FSU Validation Study showed that the tool over-predicted risk for people of color and in particular, blacks. Because of this on January 9, the MacArthur Core Team voted to: 1) suspend use of the tool at this time; 2) regroup with FSU to determine if use of additional data can modify the tool to eliminate the bias; and 3) form a small work group to look at alternatives to making the pretrial release process fair and equitable without use of a tool. Director Henson added that along with the experts at FSU, Dr. Jim Austin, and our Site Coordinators at the Center for Court Innovation have agreed to assist with amending the tool.
- B. Mr. Bert Winkler gave an overview of a grant opportunity with the local Quantum Foundation for funding the PalmFUSE Program. Mr. Winkler asked the CJC for its support to apply for the grant as part of an effort to provide sustainability outside of the MacArthur grant. The application process itself will determine what amount of the grant application. A motion to approve submitting a grant application passed unanimously upon a motion by Dr. Rachel Docekal with a second by Mr. George Elmore.

IX. New Business:

- A. Chairman Joe Ianno, Jr. called for the formation of a Selection Committee to find the next CJC Executive Director. He asked for a cross-section of membership of six or seven members to serve along with the County Administrator on the Committee. Several CJC members volunteered.
- B. Mr. Damir Kukec, Manager of Research and Planning, gave a State of Crime presentation which included data on county population trends, offense and arrest trends, court filings and disposition trends, jail trends, and comparative trends in other Florida counties. There was member discussion on county comparatives, factors that affect the data, and alternative ways to present data.

X. Update on CJC Initiatives:

- A. MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge:

- i. Mr. Bert Winkler gave an update on the Court Date Reminder system. He said it has shown to significantly reduce the number of Failures to Appear (FTA). He described a current Request for Proposal that will expand the program to include reminder notices for mandatory probation and pretrial appointments. Additionally, PBSO will provide the court reminder consent form to inmates released from jail beginning January 6. In addition, beginning February 5, the City of West Palm Beach Police Department will add consent language on its Notice To Appear arrest forms helping to include that population that doesn't enter the jail into the program.
- ii. Mr. Winkler said an announcement concerning the MacArthur Safety & Justice Challenge Renewal grant will be made on February 5, 2020.

XI. Member Comments:

None

XII. Adjourn:

With no further member comments, Chair Ianno adjourned the meeting at 8:59 a.m.