

CAB Meeting Notes
9-27-22, 5:30PM
Memorial Room, City Hall

In attendance: Claire Wheeler, Killian Leese, Carol Plante

- We have a mandate to exist through the DOC contract but, unlike a traditional nonprofit board, we don't have any fiduciary responsibility or decision-making power. It is therefore up to us to identify a compelling and relevant purpose that will keep CAB members engaged and sharing leadership.

- The Little Book of Race & Restorative Justice was successful in keeping people engaged last year. It works to prioritize shared learning and an emphasis on DEI.

- There is an additional \$5,000 awarded in the DOC contract this year to support integration of DEI principles into the MCJC's work. This could be a good focus/function of the CAB. What if we used that funding to hire a consultant/trainer to help us develop a training or educational materials around the connection between DEI and RJ, or best practices? We could then offer those resources to municipal staff and volunteers.

- Current CAB members have different levels of experience with RJ, so we also talked about focusing in on some basic training around RJ for CAB members, tied to the point above.

- We spent a while discussing the potential of the CAB and felt energized around the idea of the CAB being for and by RJ practitioners - both MCJC volunteers but also folks like Ellen and Martina who use RJ in their work in the community. It could be a place to build skills and community and to amplify and advocate for RJ across the community (the MCJC serves the 10 western towns of Washington County), not just within and for the City of Montpelier. We began to envision a coalition of the various orgs that practice RJ in Central VT, including MCJC staff and volunteers, and the CAB being a place where those practitioners can come together to learn, share, practice, and be supported.

We'd like to propose that we pick back up on our monthly 2nd Tuesday meeting schedule, and try to bring the group back together on 10/11 to discuss these ideas. The meeting could be in person with a virtual option.

I'm happy to send out a notice about that and gauge availability as soon as you all give the green light and add any additional thoughts you have.

Thanks,
Claire