

**Vermont Commission on Women  
Reproductive Justice & Sexual Health Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 | 10:00 am – 10:45 am  
Virtual meeting

**Commissioners present:** Hazel Brewster, Esther Charlestin, and Aleta Sprague

**Commissioners absent:** Nancy Kaplan and Susan Sussman

**Advisors present:** Logan Snow, PPNNE

**Staff present:** Ellie Lane

**Facilitating:** Aleta Sprague

**Recording:** Ellie Lane

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**Meeting called to order at 10:04 am.**

**1. Welcome**

Aleta welcomed the group.

**2. Discuss the draft reproductive justice policy statement circulated in advance of the meeting**

Overall, everyone loved the draft, great job. Two small concerns were raised, and included the overall readability/accessibility & a little revision of the paragraph about our racial positionality. Aleta and Esther and Ellie will work on these changes together and bring an updated draft to the committee for a vote on January 9th at noon.

**3. Discuss the proposed list of additional policy statements to update and a plan to begin that work**

The group expressed interest in maternal and reproductive healthcare for incarcerated people. Logan shared concerns about menstrual equity for incarcerated people. Esther is taking the lead on moving that issue forward. She will plan to connect with Ashley Messier and Free Her to learn more.

Involuntary sterilization is a staff priority. Logan noted that the law is in violation of the Reproductive Liberty Amendment (RLA). The group had a discussion about an avenue to have a legislator get this off the books. The group discussed a broader statement for women with disabilities, that this could be included in. The group will discuss this further in January.

**State of Vermont**

**Vermont Commission on Women**

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**4. Determine facilitator for next meeting**

Aleta will facilitate the meeting on 1/9. Hazel will facilitate the meeting on 1/17 and Esther will be backup.

**Adjourned at 10:44 am.**

**Next meeting:** Thursday, January 9, 12:00 – 12:15 p.m.