

Criminal Justice Citizen's Advisory Committee- CJCAC
February 16, 2011
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Name	Position	Present
Mr. Alan Adler	District 1	YES
Mr. James Calvin Henry	District 2	YES
Mr. Dennis T. Brown	District 3	YES
Ms. Rene Barfield	District 4	NO
Mr. Sean Mulhall	District 5	NO
Mr. Tom Bowers	District 6	YES
Mr. Anthony G. Scheer	Bar Association	YES
Vacant	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	NO
Vacant	Faith Community	NO
Ms. Carolyn Green Logan	Law Enforcement	NO
Mr. Mark T. Sumwalt	CJCAC Chairman	YES
Ms. Myra Byarm	Rehabilitation	YES
Ms. Karen L. Worrell	Substance Abuse Professional	YES
Michelle Lancaster	Mecklenburg County General Manager	NO
Janet Payne	Staff: Assistant to the County Manager	NO
Tom Eberly	Staff: Court Services - County Manager's Office	YES
Jamie Privuznak	Staff: Court Services - County Manager's Office	YES

HANDOUTS

Meeting Agenda
Meeting Minutes from January
2009 CJCAC Priority Setting Results
Annual Report to the Mecklenburg County Board of County Commissioners

Proposed Meeting Objectives:

- Approve Meeting Minutes from January;
- Priority Setting for Year II.

Meeting began at 5:30 PM.

Welcome and Introduction

Mark Sumwalt
CJCAC Chair

Mark Sumwalt called the meeting to order and welcomed the group.

Approve Meeting Minutes

A motion was placed on the floor to approve the meeting minutes by Alan Alder, seconded by Tom Bowers. The minutes were approved by consensus.

Update on CJCAC Annual Report
Tom Eberly

Tom Eberly shared with the group that the CJCAC Annual Report was presented to BOCC subcommittee on Criminal Justice who expressed their appreciation of the changes that were made and also acknowledged the amount of work that was put into the report. The report will now go to the BOCC subcommittee then officially will become public record.

Year II Planning
Group

There was a brainstorming session and discussion of the direction of the CJCAC in Year II. The group discussed the learning curve of the past year and being more comfortable after becoming more familiar with the process. Several questions arose from the brainstorming session:

1. Should the CJCAC do a report at the end of June (midyear) or at the end of Year III?
2. What can we learn from our experiences of the past year?
3. Should the CJCAC narrow its focus?
4. How do CJCAC members become more educated on what the community wants?

Suggestions from the brainstorming session:

- The development of subcommittees for more effective use of time and the development of a greater sense of what the community feels.
- Find ways to get the community and public more involved in what we are doing.
- Invite other groups concerned about criminal justice to our meetings in order to combine our efforts with others in the community who have a similar focus.
- Encourage BOCC members to engage the group as advocates for concerns in their communities.
- Formulate partnerships with justice initiatives and reinstate community meetings.
- Invite people from the community to round table discussions.
- Take a position to advocate for the protection of county positions in the criminal justice system against budget cuts.
- Form a subcommittee to bring information on funding and cuts in the court system back for the group to review.
- Ask the BOCC to expand the CJCAC membership.
- Allocate the first 15 minutes of each meeting as an educational piece.

Follow up Item: - County staff to research other groups in the community with similar focus in order to collaborate on criminal justice issues.

Follow up Item: Tom Eberly to research the study done on case volume of Northern county magistrate office.

Follow up Item: Mark Sumwalt, Dennis Brown, Tony Scheer, and Tom Byers, to discuss expanding CJCAC membership.

CJCAC Vacancies
Group

The group discussed the present vacancies and looked at the possibility of asking someone from Mecklenburg ministries to represent the faith community. The group discussed a better way for the vacancies to be more visible and the possibility of posting the positions on the CMS weekly email.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:00pm

Recap of Follow-up Items:

Follow up Item: - County staff to research other groups in the community with similar focus in order to collaborate on criminal justice issues.

Follow up Item: Tom Eberly to research the study done on case volume of Northern county magistrate office.

Follow up Item: Mark Sumwalt, Dennis Brown, Tony Scheer, and Tom Byers, to have a conference call to discuss expanding CJCAC membership.