

Criminal Justice Citizen's Advisory Committee- CJCAC

June 15, 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	YES
Mr. Tom Bowers	District 6	YES
Mr. Anthony G. Scheer	Bar Association	NO
Vacant	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	NO
Ms. Antonia Childs	Faith Community	YES
Ms. Carolyn Green Logan	Law Enforcement	YES
Mr. Mark T. Sumwalt	CJCAC Chairman	NO
Ms. Myra Byarm	Rehabilitation	YES
Ms. Karen L. Worrell	Substance Abuse Professional	NO
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 June

**Proposed Meeting Objectives:**

- Approve Meeting Minutes from April and May;
- Criminal Justice Initiatives Update;
- Year II Target Initiative Planning.

Meeting began at 5:30 PM.

**Welcome and Introduction**

Dennis Brown  
CJCAC Co Chair

Dennis Brown called the meeting to order and welcomed the group.

**Year II Goals, Sub-Committees, and 2011 Board Report**

**Group**

The meeting began with a discussion of how the group sees the formation of subcommittees as being more productive and the general direction of these committees going forward. Subcommittees are to gather the information and bring back to the board. Because of the different topics, the subcommittees can decide on how frequently they can meet and how much time will be allocated to their respective topics. Then the subcommittee will bring back recommendations to consider to be brought back to the group as a whole.

**Update on Criminal Justice Initiatives**

**Tom Eberly  
County Manager's Office**

Tom Eberly spoke to the group regarding Justice Reinvestment Initiative meeting where the group went through the high level plan of action with the Criminal Justice Advisory Group. They will be coming back to come up with target issues and to discuss the potential funding direction or targeted program.

**Introduction of New Member (Antonia Childs)**

**Mark Sumwalt**

Mark Sumwalt described our task and welcomed Antonia Childs to the group.

**Year II Goals, Sub-Committees, and 2011 Board Report**

**Group**

1. DWLR/DWI - The group held a discussion of some of the data surrounding the statistics of DWLR/DWI. Some questions that arose from this discussion were:
  - o How much jail space do you want to fill with individuals who have lesser crimes?
  - o How big a public safety issue is this?
  - o Cost benefit/ counter view?

Of concern to the group was making sure that subcommittee members are talking to enough people that the group does not have a one sided view.

**DWLR/DWI Subcommittee Members: Carolyn Logan and Alan Alder**

2. Magistrates -The question was brought to the group as to why the established guidelines for magistrates are not being enforced. It was suggested that the group begin with Karen Johnson, Chief Magistrate and Lisa Bell, supervising Judge, to evaluate the effectiveness of the magistrate guidelines, consistency, and enforcement. It was also suggested that the group invite the Chief Magistrate to a

meeting. Tom Eberly reported to the group that the magistrates will be attending mandatory training in June.

**Magistrate Subcommittee Members – Tom Bowers, Sean Mulhall, Carolyn Logan, and Anthony Scheer.**

3. CMS/Early Prevention - City Council OK'd \$1M for security for CMS. No one talking about the security of the children. Mike Rable was identified as the head of facilities at CMS, CMS Security and a possible contact person for information. Some topics in the CMS category were categorized as public safety issues that may be crossing lines and that the committee needs to make sure that we are not competing with any other groups. Tom Eberly stated that education is a state function, and that the county builds facilities and pays off debt. The group decided to explore any other groups that are looking into crime in schools such as Meck Future, which is an advocacy group for maintaining funding for public schools. The group determined that the current problems with today's children are our future criminal justice problems.

**CMS/Early Prevention Subcommittee Members: Dennis Brown, Mark Sumwalt, and Myra Byarm**

4. Home Invasion – Identified by the subcommittee as a public safety issue– bring attention to the problem itself, benchmark other cities to become more educated on this issue and educate the public. Advocate for tougher sentences. As the problem increases, there are more and more cases. Take a look at the punishment. Work with CMPD, gather statistics, and look at other major cities. Jeff Davis Deputy DA Crime Against Persons Team to visit the meeting.

**Home Invasion Subcommittee Members: Calvin James Henry and Sean Mulhall**

5. Reentry Programs/Substance Abuse – there was a general discussion concerning the current programs available and their effectiveness. It was noted that there are many existing programs.

**Reentry Programs/Substance Abuse/Rehabilitation Subcommittee Members: Tom Bowers and Myra Byarm**

*Action Item – ~~There was a transfer of Chairman from Mark Sumwalt, who will continue to serve on the committee, to Dennis Brown. There is now an open position for vice chair.~~*

The Committee reviewed the by-laws and moved to have an election at its July 20 meeting.

*Action Item: ~~Rene Barfield was removed from the committee.~~* by the Board of County Commissioners at its

May 23 Board Meeting; a letter was sent to Ms. Barfield from Commissioner Roberts referencing lack of attendance as the reason for removal.

## **Discussion**

## **Group**

The group held a discussion on the subcommittee's rules of engagement, projected report dates, and draft an outline of proposed objectives. It was decided that each group report back to the group with monthly reports containing the. Essence of what we are trying to accomplish, the scope of work, and the facts that support their findings, and recommendation.

## **Proposed Schedule:**

- Outline, scope of work, and subcommittee action items (define work and discuss initial findings) - July
- Draft ( sets forth the work to be done )– September/October

- Discussion, detailed outlines and reports - October
  - detailed outline of the subcommittee proposed findings and basis 7 days prior to regular meeting
  - group review of all standing subcommittee proposals.
- Finalization (vote on final report for submission to BOCC) – January

*Follow up Item: Report project schedule for each subcommittee at next meeting that defines the work and proposed schedule and be prepared to discuss some of the findings.*

*Follow Up Item - Nomination and election of committee members will be held during the next meeting. Nominations are to be provided from the group to Tom Eberly by email.*

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:30**

**Recap of Action Items:**

~~Action Item - There was a transfer of Chairman from Mark Sumwalt, who will continue to serve on the committee, to Dennis Brown. There is now an open position for vice chair.~~

The Committee reviewed its by-laws and moved to have an election at its July 20 meeting.

~~Action Item: Rene Barfield was removed from the committee.~~ by the Board of County Commissioners at its

May 23 Board Meeting; a letter was sent to Ms. Barfield from Commissioner Roberts referencing lack of attendances as the reason for removal.

**Recap of Follow-up Items:**

*Follow up Item: Report project schedule for each subcommittee at next meeting that defines the work and proposed schedule and be prepared to discuss some of the findings.*

*Follow Up Item - Nomination and election of committee members will be held during the next meeting. Nominations are to be provided from the group to Tom Eberly by email.*