

Criminal Justice Citizen's Advisory Committee- CJCAC
September 21, 2011
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Name	Position	Present
Mr. Alan Adler	District 1	YES
Mr. JC Henry	District 2	YES
Mr. Dennis T. Brown	CJCAC Chairman	YES
Vacant	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	NO
Ms. Carolyn Green Logan	Law Enforcement	YES
Mr. Mark T. Sumwalt	County Manager's Office	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	NO
Jamie Privuznak	Staff: Court Services – County Manager's Office	YES

HANDOUTS

Meeting Agenda
Meeting Minutes from July

Proposed Meeting Objectives:

- Approve Meeting Minutes from July;
- Justice Reinvestment Update;
- CJCAC Sub-Committee Updates / Action Plans.

Meeting began at 5:40 PM.

Welcome and Introduction

Dennis Brown
CJCAC Chairman

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

Approve Meeting Minutes

A motion was placed on the floor to by Alan Adler to approve the July meeting minutes with the following corrections:

- Tom Bowers met with Lisa Bell, District Court Judge and supervisor of magistrates.
- Dennis Brown was elected CJCAC Chairman.

Justice Reinvestment Project Update

Tom Eberly
County Manager's Office

Tom Eberly updated the group on the current focus areas identified by the Justice Reinvestment Committee. It appears that the focus areas identified matched very closely to the areas that the CJCAC subcommittees identified as priorities. It was suggested that each member serve on one of the subcommittees of the Justice Reinvestment Project to be identified by the 6 areas of focus below:

1. Consider/develop alternative methods for dealing with low level offenses
2. Review case processing activities within the first 72 hours after arrest
3. Develop optimum continuum of sentencing options and community sanctions
4. Consider offender reentry programs and efforts
5. Prevention efforts directed towards at-risk populations
6. Case Processing

Action Item: The group discussed which of the above areas of focus would best match the focus of the existing CJCAC subcommittees and the board member to participate in each:

1. Carolyn Logan and Alan Adler, alternate Sean Mulhall
2. Tony Scheer, Tom Bowers, Carolyn Logan, Sean Mulhall
3. Myra Byarm, Dennis Brown, Tom Bowers
4. Tom Bowers, JC Henry, alternate, Karen Worrell
5. Dennis Brown, Mark Sumwalt, JC Henry, alternate, Myra Byarm

CJCAC Sub-Committee Updates / Action Plans

Group

DWI/DWLR

Alan Adler and Carolyn Logan met with Commissioner Harold Cogdill, Chief Judge Lisa Bell, and Bruce Lilly from the DA's office who agreed that there are more summonses issued for DWLR and DWLR and that safety was the main issue. There were several suggestions:

- Mandatory Class - how to get your license back (state getting their money back)
- Like VA, use payment arrangements for those who cannot pay.
- Increase penalties

Dismissed the courtroom activity or lack thereof.....case processing

Per Judge Lisa Bell, unprofessionalism will not be tolerated in the courtroom by the ADA's and will be investigating their contribution to the inefficiencies observed in the courtroom. Going forward, the subcommittee will try to gather statistics from other

counties (similar size and case load) and reframe the issue to come up with some suggested recommendations for the October deadline.

Magistrates

The group requested information on the attendance of the magistrate training held last month and Tom Bowers reported that all magistrates attended training except one along with members from CMPD, the Sherriff's Office and Probation Officers. There was a general discussion on whether or not the established guidelines are being used effectively and Tom Bowers volunteered to participate in a current study being conducted by CharMeck Court Watch regarding the effectiveness of these guidelines.

Follow Up Item: Tom Eberly will share the results of the Bail Policy Study conducted by the County Manager's Office.

Home Invasion

Sean Mulhall informed the group that the subcommittee contacted the Sergeant from the CMPD Robbery Division who reported home invasions have increased since we started looking into this issue. The subcommittee will provide more information during the next meeting.

Reentry/Substance Abuse

Myra Byarm and Tom Bowers met with Ruth Snyder at Changed Choices. Both members reported to the group the lack of funding for these types of services for individuals coming out of jails/prisons.

Next Steps - The subcommittee will continue to gather data on existing programs to define the current need.

CMS Early Prevention

There was a general discussion concerning behavior problems occurring in the elementary and middle schools and how the cutback on teachers relates to safety and classroom management. According to Karen Worrell, there are an increased number of referrals to the assistant principals or deans because of the larger number of students in a single class. The group discussed how increased parent involvement across the school system would assist in eliminating some of the behavior problems. Dennis Brown has requested files from various agencies to assist in our view of classroom safety.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30

Recap of Action Items:

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Recap of Follow-up Items:

Follow Up Item: Tom Eberly will share the results of the Bail Policy Study conducted by the County Manager's Office.