

**Mecklenburg County
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Meeting
March 22, 2011 – Minutes**

Members Present: Kimberly Best-Staton, Keith Cradle, Pete Davis, Tom Eberly, D. Franklin Freeman, Jeff Hood, Deborah Jackson, Susan McCarter, Simona Mitchell-Kelly, Pamela Morris, Steve Newman, Heather Taraska, Richard Zaleskie

Guests Present: Teresa Abernathy (Project Challenge); Darryl Bego & Teresa White (LIFT Academy); Sharon Plummer (YFS/FACET); Vicky Chapman & Corey Edwards (DJJDP); Sharon Bell & Becky Smith (Barium Springs Home for Children)

Staff Present: Rich Smith, Brandi Weathers, and Tangela White

Members Absent: (# of Excused/Unexcused absences since 01/01/11): Kimm Campbell (1E), Sarah Crowder (1E), Douglas Edwards (1U), Gwen Hester-Cohen (1E, 1U), Laura Johnson (1E), Lola Massad (2U), Laura McFern (2E), Mary Wilson (1U)

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 p.m. by the chair, Jeff Hood.

Quorum was established.

Approval of Agenda for March 22, 2011: Agenda was approved unanimously by the council.

Review and Approval of Minutes: Sharon Plummer added one revision to the February minutes. With that revision, the minutes were approved unanimously by the council. The Special RFP Meeting Minutes (03/09/11) were also approved (12 Yeas and 1 Abstention - from a member who was not present). And the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (03/04/11) were entered into record.

Susan McCarter noted the new yearly attendance grid (per JCPC recommendation) and asked that folks initial the grid and still sign in on the sign-in sheet. She also reminded members to email Tangela and Susan prior to the JCPC meetings regarding absences.

Nominating Committee recommendations of Chair and Vice-Chair for JCPC: Steve Newman and Laura McFern spearheaded the nominations process for the JCPC Chair and Vice-Chair. Steve reported that the Nominating Committee unanimously supports two interim placements for these positions: Richard Zaleskie for Chair and Keith Cradle for Vice-Chair. They are both willing and able to serve in these positions through the current terms which end in June. The Nominating Committee will continue its work to bring nominations to the Council for officers to begin July 1, 2011. Though Jeff noted his initial hesitation for interims – he stated that he now supports and fully endorses this plan of action. Motion was made and seconded to elect Richard Zaleskie - Chair and Keith Cradle - Vice-Chair to serve through the end of June 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

Funding Committee and Conflict of Interest: Jeff reiterated that at the January meeting Mary Wilson had volunteered to chair the Funding Committee. In her role as the Director of the Department of Social Services (DSS) and with some program funding coming through DSS, the County has suggested that although there may not be a direct conflict of interest, there is the appearance of a conflict and in the current tenor of local government transparency and accountability, they suggest minimizing direct and perceived conflicts of interest. The State concurs. Mary has offered to step down. Jeff asked if there is anyone willing to chair the Funding Committee. With help, Simona Mitchell-Kelly offered to chair this committee. Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to have Simona chair the Funding Committee.

Committee Assignments: Jeff asked that committee membership roles be updated and that all new members sign up to serve on committees. Susan distributed a committee sign-up sheet for those members present. Tangela White will distribute to remaining JCPC members with a request that they sign up. Susan read the bylaws and asked if the Executive Committee is considered a standing committee since officers and committee chairs comprise the Executive Committee and the bylaws state that members may only serve on two committees. She, and all of the other officers, would be willing to serve on two standing committees not including the Executive Committee. Tom Eberly offered to get clarification on this item from the County. Brandi Weathers read and distributed the committee descriptions and described the time commitments associated with each committee.

April JCPC Meeting: The Funding Committee offered two options for April's allocation meeting. Meet on April 26th to ask questions of agencies, etc. and then again on April 29th from 9-noon – or just begin early on April 26th and be prepared to stay late. Judge Kimberly Best-Staton suggested that we have food provided. She recommended a deli/caterer on 7th Street that she used recently. Motion was made for both options – seconded – Option 2 was adopted: Meet on Tuesday, April 26th at 3pm until we finish. Tom will look into food and Tangela will book the room.

Updates and Announcements/Old Business/New Business: Susan followed up on last month's meeting when Mary stated that her staff person took minutes at the Funding Committee meeting and she would provide them to the JCPC per bylaws which require minutes from standing committee meetings. No one present from the Funding Committee has these minutes.

Richard noted that he had spoken with Beta Alpha Si (the Accounting Honor Society) members at UNC Charlotte. They would be interested in assisting with the monitoring process. The Monitoring Committee will develop a proposal for Richard to take to Beta Alpha Si.

Kimberly asked when members will receive the proposals and the scoring tool. The scoring tool was distributed and Brandi, Tangela, and the Funding Committee will work to prepare and distribute the proposals as quickly as possible.

Brandi noted to the program representatives present that 3rd quarter accounting reports are due to the office tomorrow.

Jeff suggested that he feels that the JCPC would be well-served by a Parliamentarian. Time is wasted by not following Robert's Rules, following them too specifically, and/or not being familiar with them. This is endorsed and supported by the County and the State and resources towards this end will be explored.

Kimberly mentioned that the Eckerd Wilderness Camp is closing. She acknowledged a need for out of home placements in between 14 days detention and training school.

Jeff closed by asking that the JCPC members put personal agendas aside and come together as a group. He recalled when Gwen stated that she always tries to remember the kids. Jeff believes the kids' faces are fading. We need to work together to get Charlotte Mecklenburg back to where we're supposed to be. If we keep the children first, the opinions will fall into place. He remembered a conversation with Paul Stroup who said that he'd know when it was time to step down – and for him, that time is now.

Brandi publicly thanked Jeff for this years of hard work and dedication to the Charlotte Mecklenburg Juvenile Crime Prevention Council and most importantly, to the young people of our county. JCPC members present heartily agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 26, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Susan McCarter