

**Mecklenburg County
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Meeting
February 28, 2012 – Minutes**

Members Present: Kimberly Best-Staton, Kimm Campbell, Bobby Cobb, Sarah Crowder, Pete Davis, , Douglas Edwards, Chris Ferguson, Franklin Freeman, Gwen Hester-Cohen, Laura Johnson, Susan McCarter, Laura McFern, Pam Morris, Heather Taraska
Staff Present: Scott Stoker

Members Absent: Keith Cradle, Tom Eberly, Sara Holland, Lola Massad, Mary Wilson

Guests Present: Teresa White (LIFT Academy), LaRuth Brooks (Youth Villages, Inc.), Patsy Burkins & George Wilkerson (GAP), Avi Williams (YFS/FACET), Teresa Abernathy (Project Challenge), Becky Smith (Barium Springs Home for Children), Kim & Sean Weaver (COMPASS Basic Training), Paul Brown (District 2 Committee), D. Scheppegrell (CMPD), Hannah Dunham (Eckerd), April Morris (Connections), Commissioner Vilma Leake, Chief Rodney Munroe

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by the Chair, Sarah Crowder. Quorum was established.

Approval of the Agenda for February 28, 2012: Susan McCarter moved to approve the agenda and Franklin Freeman seconded. Agenda was approved unanimously by the Council.

Review and Approval of December 20, 2011 Minutes: Judge Kimberly Best-Staton had emailed members proposed revisions to the minutes. Susan read the changes out loud. Kimberly moved to approve the revised minutes and Kimm Campbell seconded. Revised December 20, 2011 minutes were approved unanimously by the Council.

Executive Committee Report: Sarah reported that applicants for Governor's Crime Commission grants were instructed on the GCC website to provide evidence that their local JCPC was notified of their proposal and that their programs/projects fit within the local JCPC's 'county plan.' Sarah was unaware of such a plan, but in consultation with Scott Stoker, surmised that meeting the general mission of the JCPC and the general intent of the last RFP would suffice. Thus, an Executive Committee meeting was called for January 27, 2012 and voted to grant all but one applicant (which did not follow up despite Sarah's emails and phone calls) a letter of evidence that the JCPC had been notified prior to the GCC deadline of the applicant's intent to pursue GCC funding.

Monitoring Committee Report: Kimm shared that the monitor has evaluated each of the JCPC-funded programs and has provided written feedback for each program. These reports were provided to the JCPC and included Strengths, Challenges, and Recommendations for each program. A question was asked regarding obtaining JCPC referrals. Laura McFern stated that some programs aren't going to get referrals based on a variety of issues, including program location/transportation. She also answered a question about DASH, noting that it is a front-end diversion and thus, has the support of court counselors. Kimberly noted that court counselors

also have plenty of anecdotal feedback on the programs. Scott Stoker has a survey to collect court counselor feedback in a more systematic manner. Susan asked if the programs were given the monitor's feedback. Scott indicated that programs were given the cover pages but not the specific feedback reports and he will get that information to them. Franklin agreed that this is important. Laura also noted that having served on the Monitoring Committee for years, it was nice to have one monitor providing a consistent barometer for the programs.

Insomuch as the report is coming from committee, it only needs a second. Laura seconded the motion from the Monitoring Committee and the monitoring report was accepted unanimously as submitted.

Membership and RFP Updates: Deborah Jackson has resigned from the JCPC. As a DA in Anson County, making the meetings proved too difficult. Also, Sarah noted that the bylaws suggest that the JCPC should include a juvenile defense attorney. To that end, she will ask the juvenile section of the Mecklenburg County Bar for a recommendation to send to the BOCC. Kimberly also suggested that the attorney be familiar with delinquency matters and perhaps contacting the Council for Children's Rights. Simona Mitchell-Kelly has been removed from the JCPC by the Clerk for missed attendance. (Sarah again reviewed the county's attendance policy.) Douglas Edwards and Heather Taraska volunteered to now co-chair the Funding Committee. Chris Ferguson will also serve on the Funding Committee.

Timeline for the RFP has proposals due tomorrow at 5pm. Presentations will be held the fourth Tuesday in March (03/27/12). And on the fourth Tuesday in April (04/24/12) we will meet to vote. Money is tight in state budgets especially for food, but Sarah will try to provide dinner for the longer meetings. Susan asked if the time will be different. Sarah noted that we will start next month's meeting at 4pm instead of 4:30pm and take a short break to eat.

COMPASS Request for Modification of Program Agreement: Kim Weaver from COMPASS presented her organization's request for modification of their program agreement. They have found the transition from school-based to community-based slower than anticipated. Captain Pete Davis asked about resource officers. Ms. Weaver acknowledged they are an avenue for referrals and noted that COMPASS is building relationships with resource officers, teen court, and schools. Gwen Hester-Cohen asked about transportation. Ms. Weaver noted that is also being addressed. Franklin and Heather commended the COMPASS program on coming to the JCPC to work this out. Kimm moved to modify the COMPASS program agreement accordingly, Douglas seconded. JCPC vote was unanimously in favor of modifying the current program agreement.

Updates and Announcements: Laura distributed a flyer for the 'Improving Outcomes for Youth' event. Kimberly noted upcoming CMS & Parent University events as well as Homeboy Industries speaker Father Greg Boyle. She also asked for an update on the Greenville Center. Greenville Center funding will stop June 30th but the programs will continue.

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Please note: Next meeting is Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Susan McCarter