

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETING MINUTES

Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services

Director's Office

601 North Pecos Road

Las Vegas, NV 89101

December 4, 2013

9:00 a.m.

Present: Tom Maroney, Tiffany Tyler, Bob Henry, Pat Nelson, Heidi Swank Arnold Stalk, Joelyne Gold-Nance, Anthony York and Leisa Mosley

Guests: Michael Whelihan, Carol McWaters

Call to Order

Mr. Maroney called the meeting to order and announced there was a quorum.

Approval of November 6, 2013 minutes

The meeting minutes were approved.

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved.

Legislation Issues/Topics – Review and update from committee, discuss, and take possible actions.

Mr. Maroney discussed the proposed educational presentation to be prepared for members of the legislature to inform them, and the community, about the number of youth involved in the DJJS system that are essentially good youth. Perhaps a different approach is needed to change how the community perceives these youth.

CAC Bills for 2014.

Pat Nelson discussed the gang task force meeting at which Mr. Martin presented a two (2) minute presentation that was powerful in its different slant on these youth. This is the type of message that needs to get out to more people to make a difference. Ms. Nelson noted that Mr. Martin was very positive about the youth we serve and his enthusiasm carries to others. The statistics he presented were informative and easily understood. Heidi Swank discussed the biggest stumbling block of getting the attention of a member of the legislature. Mr. Maroney expressed concern about creating too large a document to present that is unwieldy.

Michael Whelihan, Manager of Spring Mountain Youth Camp, was directly involved with the 2013 legislative session and will research besides Jason Frierson and Leslie Cohen the key players to contact. Ms. Swank will talk to Jason Frierson about a caucus and how to get a Bill Draft Request (BDR) started. The January meeting will include a planning session to definitely decide on 2-3 issues that they will need to focus on this coming year. Tiffany Tyler discussed needing to have a commitment to identify specific action items at each meeting and memorialize them in the minutes. If you remember your specific agenda item, bring it back to the meeting.

Partnership with Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative - Review and update from committee, discuss, and take possible action.

Dr. Tyler and Robert Henry were at the last meeting. The meeting was facilitated by Mr. Martin who was advocating for a "One Stop Center" for youth as soon as they are in the juvenile justice system. The Center would coordinate services with Social Service and Family Services. It was suggested that County

Management would need to see the financial impact this Center will have. The members of the Committee were encouraged to attend the upcoming Juvenile Detention Alternatives (JDAI) meetings.

Calendar Year 2014

JDAI JOINT Stakeholders Committee Meetings

(Zenoff Hall Conference Room – 12:15 PM)

February 12 (2nd Wednesday)

May 14th (2nd Wednesday)

August 13 (2nd Wednesday)

November 12 (2nd Wednesday)

Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) and inform Committee Members

Mr. Whelihan reported for Director Martin, who was unable to attend, that there were four (4) Supervisor positions being filled at this time. The FALL Peace Officers Standards Training (POST) Academy will graduate 15 cadets on December 19th. The graduation will be at the Commission Chambers at the government center at 10:00AM and everyone is encouraged to attend. The new recruits are already showing energy and enthusiasm.

Manager Marcus Humphries separated from the County on September 13th. Detention Supervisor Carolyn Banks was promoted to the position on December 9th.

The Department has completed 95% of the background checks on employees. Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 62 states any employee that is around children cannot have a felony conviction or have a substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect case. Mr. Maroney discussed the additional testing that is being done on all employees prior to employment. This was a change that started three years ago. Prospective employees now need to pass a psychological test and written tests. Discussion was held on the need to keep youth we supervise safe, encourage them to improve their lives and change their way of doing things. Maroney asked if at the same time, we are able to assist a staff member when they made a mistake in their past after getting a felony, if they would allowed be to work for DJJS. Everyone was reminded that only a staff member that has to be convicted of a felony, or another crime listed in NRS 62, or has a substantiated Child Abuse or Neglect case would lose his or her job. Mr. Whelihan did explain the appeals process that was afforded in NRS 62. Some of the committee members felt it would be nice if there were a way to classify the different felonies it would be nice.

In order to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) the department must install cameras in all facilities. This is a protection for the youth and the staff.

Mr. Whelihan reported that SMYC state football team was runner-up, second year in a row for state championship. Basketball and Wrestling are in full swing.

Mr. Whelihan reported that things were going well in Field Probation, Detention and Clinical Services. Staff was committed to helping youth in all the divisions.

The Children's Service Guild paid for the makings of a Thanksgiving dinner for 150 families. Staff from DJJS & DFS helped sort the food and then delivered to families on their caseloads.

Public Comments

Agenda for next meeting

- Public information
- Legislature
- One Stop Center

Formation of Subcommittee structure

- Public Perception
- Other Issues

Setting of Next Meeting – (January 8, 2013 at 9:00 a.m., Location to be decided)

Adjournment