

Nebraska Children's Commission – Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee

Sixteenth Meeting
March 11, 2014
9:00AM-12:00PM
Country Inns & Suites, Omaha Room
5353 N. 27th Street, Lincoln, NE

Call to Order

Ellen Brokofsky and Marty Klein called the meeting to order at 9:10am and noted that the Open Meetings Act information was posted in the room as required by state law.

Roll Call

Subcommittee Members present: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Mark Mason, Jana Peterson, Corey Steel, and Dr. Ken Zoucha (9:13am).

Acting as resources to the committee: Tony Green, Julie Rogers, and Dan Scarborough.

Subcommittee Member(s) absent: Barb Fitzgerald, Kim Hawekotte, Nick Juliano, Tina Marroquin, Pastor Tony Sanders, and Monica Miles Steffens, and Dalene Walker.

Resource members absent: Senator Kathy Campbell, Senator Colby Coash, Jim Bennett, Liz Hruska, Doug Koebernick, Jerall Moreland, Jenn Piatt, and Hank Robinson.

Also attending: Bethany Connor and Leesa Sorensen.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Ron Johns to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Jana Peterson. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Mark Mason, Jana Peterson, and Corey Steel. Voting no: none. Barb Fitzgerald, Kim Hawekotte, Nick Juliano, Tina Marroquin, Pastor Tony Sanders, Monica Miles Steffens, Dalene Walker, and Dr. Ken Zoucha were absent. Motion carried.

Approval of January 14, 2014, Minutes

A motion was made by Corey Steel to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2014, meeting, seconded by Ron Johns. Voting yes: Martin Klein, Ellen Brokofsky, Kim Culp, Sarah Forrest, Cindy Gans, Judge Larry Gendler, Anne Hobbs, Ron Johns, Mark Mason, Jana Peterson, and Corey Steel. Voting no: none. Barb Fitzgerald, Kim Hawekotte, Nick Juliano, Tina Marroquin, Pastor Tony Sanders, Monica Miles Steffens, Dalene Walker, and Dr. Ken Zoucha were absent. Motion carried.

Co-chair's Report

Ellen Brokofsky and Marty Klein gave a co-chair's report. Marty noted that the committee was in a transition time as the group looked at the work that had been done, the legislation that was pending, and the next steps related to the development of the recommendations. Ellen noted that Senator Krist was planning to take the lead on juvenile justice reform from Senator Ashford, so that Senator Ashford could concentrate on reforms to the adult system. Senator Krist has been working with Jenn Piatt on LB464 which is the clean-up bill for LB561.

Marty and Ellen informed committee members that the official work of the committee, as outlined in LB 821 and LB 561, was technically completed with the December 2013 report. However, they also noted that as indicated in the report there was still work to be done and the Nebraska Children's Commission had given approval for the committee to continue meeting. Since many committee members had only officially committed to the first phase of the planning, committee members were asked if they planned to continue serving on the Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee. Members in attendance were asked to indicate if they planned to continue on the committee and if they had anyone they would suggest be added as a resource to the committee. Suggestions were made to add a county representative and to invite additional subject matter experts as the committee worked through the next phases of strategic plan development. Subject matter experts will be invited to meetings based on the topic on the agenda to be covered. Leesa Sorensen was also asked to send an e-mail to all committee members asking about their continued service on the committee. All members in attendance at the meeting indicated that they intend to continue working on the committee.

Legislative Report

Bethany Connor provided a legislative update on LB464 which includes changes to juvenile justice provisions including the legislative clean-up bill for LB561. The legislation proposes changes to juvenile justice filing procedures, jurisdiction, and placement of youth in the YRTC's. The legislation also addresses the use of evidence based practices and puts in place changes to community-based juvenile services aid program funding.

Crime Commission Grant Process Update

Cindy Gans, Community Based Aid Administrator for the Crime Commission provided information on the 2014 community based aid program. Cindy provided the timeline for the review of grant applications and noted that award letters are still expected to be out in early May. Cindy noted that by the next Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee meeting she should have additional information to share with the group. It was also noted that there is approximately \$76,000.00 that may be made available for an additional round of grant applications. Cindy is planning to bring more information to the April meeting.

Final Report Review Process Discussion

Leesa Sorensen provided the group with a draft analysis matrix for each of the workgroups outlined in the Phase I Strategic Recommendations document. The committee then discussed what should be done next with the report. The committee discussed the original plan of dividing

the committee into five workgroups, but decided instead to devote more time as a full group to further develop the general framework and next action steps for each workgroup. The committee will be utilizing the standardized analysis chart to complete the next phase of the strategic plan. The committee will determine at a later date if the sub-committee process will be utilized for further development of the plan.

The committee decided to start their planning process by looking at the recommendations related to Community-based programs at the April 8, 2014 meeting. The committee will look at Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol (SPEP) Design as the next issue to develop. Ellen asked Bethany Connor to put together a list of reading related to Community-based programs that committee members could review before the meeting. The committee will work on completing that section of the matrix at the next meeting.

New Business

None.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2014 from 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Cindy Gans to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Anne Hobbs. The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.