

Nebraska Children's Commission

Tenth Meeting
April 16, 2013
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Country Inn and Suites, Lighthouse Room
5353 N. 27th Street, Lincoln, NE

Call to Order

Karen Authier called the meeting to order at 9:03am and noted that the Open Meetings Act information was posted in the room as required by state law.

Roll Call

Commission Members present: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy Forney, Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, Norman Langemach, Jennifer Nelson, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Thomas Pristow, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, Susan Staab, and Kerry Winterer.

Commission Members absent: None.

Ex Officio Members present: Hon. Linda Porter and Vicky Weisz.

Ex Officio Members absent: Ellen Brokofsky, Senator Kathy Campbell, Senator Colby Coash, and Senator Jeremy Nordquist.

Also in attendance: Sara Goscha, Tony Green, Vicki Maca, Wes Nespor, and Leesa Sorensen from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Beth Baxter to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Norman Langemach. Voting yes: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy Forney, Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Gene Klein, Norman Langemach, Jennifer Nelson, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Thomas Pristow, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, Susan Staab, and Kerry Winterer. Voting no: none. Martin Klein was absent. Motion carried.

Approval of January 16, 2013, Minutes

A motion was made by Susan Staab to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2013, meeting, seconded by Kerry Winterer. Voting yes: Pam Allen, Karen Authier, Beth Baxter, Nancy

Forney, Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Janteice Holston, Gene Klein, Martin Klein, Norman Langemach, Jennifer Nelson, David Newell, John Northrop, Mary Jo Pankoke, Thomas Pristow, Dale Shotkoski, Becky Sorensen, Susan Staab, and Kerry Winterer. Voting no: none. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Chairperson's Report

Karen Authier provided the committee with information on the Prevention Summit that took place in Kearney on April 10, 2013. Several Commission members were able to meet with community groups as a part of round table discussions that took place prior to the conference. Karen also highlighted some of the legislative bills that would impact the work of the Commission, including new committees and responsibilities.

Karen reminded the group that the Health and Human Services committee would be holding a technology briefing on April 22, 2013.

Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee Report

Martin Klein provided an update on the Juvenile Services Committee, including a written report. The committee has completed the initial review of the LR196 (*Nebraska Juvenile Services Master Plan*) document. The committee will be holding a full day meeting in both May and June to work on the strategic recommendations of the Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee. Marty also reported that the committee has had a membership change and was beginning discussion on replacements for that one open position and the possibility of adding new members at a future date.

DHHS Update

Thomas Pristow provided an update on the Title IV-E process. He also announced to the group that Tony Green has taken the position of Deputy Director of OJS. DHHS is currently looking for someone to fill the open position in the Eastern service area. Thomas also gave an update on the Results Based Accountability process of meeting with providers and updating contracts. Thomas offered to give a more comprehensive update on other initiatives at the Commission meeting in May.

Legislative Update

Karen Authier provided the group a handout on legislative bills that relate to the work of the Commission. The list includes the status of each of the bills. Karen specifically highlighted LB216 which deals with youth aging out of the system, LB 268 which creates a placeholder for additional systems related funding and support, LB269 which moves the Children's Commission to the Foster Care Review Office; LB 530 which provides for implementation of the recommendations of the Foster Care Rate Committee; and LB561 which impacts the role of the

Juvenile Services (OJS) committee. Karen reminded the group that there might be other bills that are of interest to members of the committee or may impact that work of the Commission.

Contracting with Private Non-profit Entities as a Lead Agency (NFC Presentation)

Dave Newell provided a presentation on NFC for consideration by the Commission as members evaluate the role of private non-profit entities functioning as a lead agency. Dave provided information on the history of NFC; a brief overview of the work of NFC including service results; NFC financial information; and items the Commission members may want to be aware of in the future related to child welfare and juvenile justice.

The Commission recessed at 10:25am for workgroup discussions.

The Commission reconvened at 11:30am.

Phase II Strategic Planning General Discussion

Commission members met within assigned workgroups to continue discussions on the four main goal areas. At the end of their discussion time each workgroup reported on the work they are currently doing:

Workforce

The Workforce workgroup is currently researching other surrounding state models related to professional workforce development. The Committee is researching information from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Vermont, Kansas, and Arizona to collect information on best practices.

Community Ownership

The Community Ownership workgroup reviewed information on the Fremont community initiatives that was presented by Jennifer Skala. The group also discussed plans for upcoming listening sessions that the workgroup will host with various community leaders across the state.

System of Care

The System of Care workgroup discussed the cross-systems analysis document and the need for the group to review that report in more detail as a part of their workgroup efforts. The group also discussed the need to coordinate their efforts with the Community Ownership Workgroup and Juvenile Services (OJS) Committee in order to assess the gaps in services across the state.

Technology

The Technology workgroup reported on the work that is being done to coordinate data systems including a possible project with the Foster Care Review office. The committee will eventually be looking at and evaluating the pros and cons of SACWICs compliance.

New Business

General Discussion no action item

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is May 18, 2013, 9:00am-12:00pm. The place has not yet been determined.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Beth Baxter to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mary Jo Pankoke. The meeting adjourned at 11:55am.