



JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION COMMISSION
C O U N T Y O F H U M B O L D T

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REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2006 - 7:00-9:00 P.M.
United Indian Health Services
1600 Weott Way, Arcata, CA 95521

E Jason Akana	X Peggy Hobbs
E Rose Baker	X Maureen Johannsen
X Bill Daniel	E Samantha Love
E Dave Douglas	X Antoinette Martin
E Morgan Douglas	X Josh Meisel
X Vincent Feliz	
E Nadine Fleek	

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Martin, Cindy Sutcliff, Bill Nichols, Doug Rasines, Denise Jones

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Daniel at 7:00 P.M. A quorum was present.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

There was not a flag in the room.

1.2 INTRODUCTIONS

Members and guests introduced themselves.

2.0 ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None.

3.0 CORRESPONDENCE

4.0 APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 11, 2006 MEETING

It was moved by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Feliz to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

5.0 REPORTS

5.1 ADMINISTRATION (Chair Daniel)

Chair Daniel alerted commissioners to the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2006-2007 which seeks elimination of the federal block grants given to community action

agencies such as RCAA. At this point, it is unclear whether this will directly impact YSB. Chair Daniel will follow this matter and update the commissions as needed.

5.2 COMMUNITY RELATIONS

5.21 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Cindy Sutcliff reported on recent developments concerning transitional aged youth. The department recently hired a consultant whose job is to assist social workers in identifying potential permanent relationships between adults and youth which could serve as a support system for these youth as they age out of the foster care system. At this point, significant success was reported in identifying these relationships and making appropriate connections. Cindy also reported that CWS is beginning to implement a team approach to child placement. This involves holding a meeting with the child's entire family and any other appropriate persons to discuss placement options, identify services the family may need, assist parents in making any changes needed to avoid the child's being removed from the home, and explaining what will happen during any court proceedings that may take place.

5.2 HUMBOLDT COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Denise Jones reported that there are currently 310 youth enrolled in the community schools. This is the lowest number of students enrolled in these programs in four years. In addition, Denise reported that the basketball programs operated through GRIP are going well and attracting a large number of participants. She noted that it is likely that the block grant which funds much of the GRIP program will end this year and they are currently exploring other funding sources. Denise also reported that she is currently applying for a grant to fund special services for homeless students in order to keep them in school. She requested that the commissions write letters of support as needed for this and other grant proposals.

5.23 NATIVE AMERICAN CONCERNS (Commissioner Feliz)

Commissioner Feliz announced that he is no longer working for UIHS. He has taken a job at HSU. He did report that UIHS is losing much of the funding that has been used for services they have provided through Juvenile Hall and the Regional Facility. He indicated that he sees a strong need for mentoring programs within the community to help struggling youth and hopes the commissions could address this. Finally, Commissioner Feliz requested that a letter be written to Jerry Simone of UIHS thanking him for offering the UIHS conference room for commissions meetings. It was moved by Commissioner Meisel and seconded by Commissioner Feliz to authorize the chair to write this letter. Motion carried.

5.24 MENTAL HEALTH

Bill Nichols reported that they are in the final stages of hiring an additional clinician who will work at the Regional Facility. He also expressed concerns about the transportation needs of youth who leave the Regional Facility but are still engaged in activities that are part of their after care plan. Many of these youth travel by city and county bus and must change busses at the Bay shore Mall. Bill expressed interest in developing some type of youth center at the mall which would provide a more structured environment.

5.25 REGIONAL FACILITY (Commissioner Martin)

Commissioner Martin indicated that she does not feel there are enough resources for mentoring of youth who are in the Regional Facility or who have just recently completed the program.

5.3 PROBATION

Doug Rasines first reported that they are continuing to hold juvenile court at the Regional Facility even with the change in judges. He indicated that he would like to make this permanent as it would reduce logistical difficulties around transferring youth from the facility to the court house. The rest of Doug's report focused on the state and federal budgets and how they would impact the department. In general, it appears that the budget situation is somewhat better than expected. The TANF and JJCPA moneys appear to have been restored as have cuts in federal funding.

6.0 COMMISSIONS ACTION PLANNING

The commissioners engaged in a rather brief brainstorming session to identify the most critical needs in the community concerning juvenile justice and delinquency prevention. The most common need identified by commissioners as well as people from the various agencies was the need for mentoring programs both inside and outside the juvenile justice system. For example, it was noted that youth who are just released from the Regional facility would benefit from some type of adult mentor. A more in depth discussion of action plans concerning this and other issues will take place during the next meeting.

7.0 COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned shortly after 9:00 P.M.