

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
MEETING MINUTES
July 1, 2009
ACOB-5TH STREET EXTENDED, ROOM B**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Martha Carroll, 16th District Court Service Unit
Ralph Chester, Albemarle Citizen
Representative
Buz Cox, Charlottesville Dept. of Social
Services
Bryan Elliott, Albemarle County
Billy Hawn, Albemarle County Schools
Brian Hemmert, Private Service Provider
Representative
Chelsea Henderson, County Youth
Representative
Robert Johnson, Region Ten Community
Services
Carolyn Lawlor, Albemarle Citizen
Representative
Winx Lawrence, University of Virginia
Sean McCord, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Jan Martin, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Ronnie Price, County School Board
Representative
Kathy Ralston, Albemarle Department of Social
Services
Ruth Stone, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative
Maurice Walker, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Rosa Atkins, Charlottesville City Schools
Leslie Beauregard, City of Charlottesville
Kathleen Galvin, City School Board
Representative
Amy Laufer, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Tim Longo, Charlottesville Police Department
John Miller, Albemarle Police Department
Pat Mullaney, Albemarle Department of Parks &
Recreation
Lilian Peake, Thomas Jefferson Health District
Tanner Perkins, City Youth Representative
Cathy Train, United Way Representative
Paul Wisman, Charlottesville Citizen
Representative

CCF STAFF PRESENT

Gretchen Ellis, Director
Maryfrances Porter, Intervention Team Leader
Linda Rahman, Information-Outreach-Volunteer
Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

Eugene Conti, Ragged Mountain Home

HANDOUTS (prior to meeting)

Agenda for July 1, 2009 CCF meeting
Draft of the May 6, 2009 CCF meeting minutes
Director's Report
CSA Monthly Program Report
Charlottesville CSA Summary Financial Report
Albemarle CSA Summary Financial Report

HANDOUTS (during meeting)

Charge for Minority Disparity for C/A Children
Stayactive.org Reborn

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

R. Stone, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm, welcomed Commissioners and public and introductions were made.

II. SPECIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE ADDED AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A revised Agenda adding the Nominating Committee's recommendations was distributed.

◆ THE COMMISSION ADOPTED THE REVISED JULY 1, 2009 AGENDA.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments from the public.

IV. REMINDER ON DECLARATION ON CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS

R. Stone reminded Commissioners on the rules regarding voting on items that could present a conflict of interest.

V. COMMISSIONER ISSUES

R. Chester discussed the recent announcement by the State for more budget cuts and how this would probably affect the Commonwealth Center. He requested that the Commission send a letter to the Governor requesting that they do not make any more cuts in the mental health community or some type of protest to keep it open. R. Johnson discussed how the stimulus dollars spared 10% of the cuts but the budget was still short and all state agencies would be affected. He stated how difficult it was to provide un-funded services but they would do everything they could to provide services.

VI. MINUTES FROM THE CCF MEETING FOR MAY 6, 2009

A motion to approve the May 6, 2009 minutes was made by B. Hemmert and seconded by R. Chester.

◆ THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MAY 6, 2009 CCF MEETING MINUTES.

VII. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

M. Walker stated that the Nominating Committee would like to submit the following nominations: For Chair, Robert Johnson; for Vice Chair, Brian Hemmert; for Executive Committee Members at Large, Lilian Peake and Paul Wisman. R. Stone asked if there were any further nominations from the floor. As no further nominations were stated, R. Stone closed the nominations and a motion to approve the nominations was made by K. Ralston and seconded by W. Lawrence.

◆ THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE NOMINATIONS FOR FY2010 CCF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

VIII. CCF FALL RETREAT

G. Ellis stated that the Executive Committee had a conversation on the mission of CCF and that the Executive Committee recommended having a Fall Retreat to look at the direction CCF was

heading, to evaluate work groups, reenergize, refocus and engage commissioners. Commissioners discussed having a retreat and decided that an extended meeting (4:00pm to 9:00pm) the first Wednesday in October (October 7th) would work best with a facilitator. L. Rahman is to send out an email polling the commissioners.

IX. STAY ACTIVE WEBSITE UPDATE

G. Ellis gave a brief background on the Stayactive.org Website which M. Walker (as a member of the Youth Development Network Steering Committee) has taken ownership of updating and making it more user friendly. M. Walker spoke about his goals for the website which he plans to complete in two phases. He stated that this is still a work in progress and is looking to the Commission for their input, suggestions and for the youth representatives to serve on an advisory committee for the website.

M. Walker's presentation showed the original website and the changes he has made to ensure all contents are being utilized. He stated that he had combined several informational pages and placed this information on the home page. He suggested that it should be regularly updated with school and community events and the possibility of including a spotlight on agencies that serve local youth.

Commissioners suggestions included:

1. Include deadlines if participant needs to register for events
2. Have a search engine.
3. Include photos of events
4. Feature new facilities – i.e., Meade Water Park
5. Feature a moderated Blog
6. Feature a virtual museum displaying children's artwork
7. Market the website on Facebook and Myspace
8. Advertise website to agencies, libraries, schools, and people working with families
9. Change language from families to youth
10. How do you reach audience that does not have computers?
11. Link to Albemarle Families' website
12. Have high school computer classes keep the website updated (speak with Martha Brown with Albemarle Schools)
13. Have more youth involved in what's featured on website
14. Needs Twitter, mobile version – other places than website

R. Johnson thanked M. Walker for his work and asked him to keep the Commission updated and to let him know if he needs further Commissioners to help on the project.

X. MINORITY DISPARITY AD HOC PLANNING GROUP

W. Lawrence gave a brief background on the data gathered over the past year that suggests that there may be race disparities for children in a number of domains related to the Commission's work. A group of Commissioners were asked at the May 6, 2009 Commission meeting to meet and determine if there is a need for a work group to address this issue and if so to determine a charge. The Commissioners have concluded that there is a need for a work group and recommend that the Commission charge a Minority Disparity Work Group to:

1. Identify whether there are disparities effecting minority children in Charlottesville and Albemarle in the areas of child welfare, health, education, juvenile justice and to determine the level and scope of disparities if any.
2. Determine the consequences or results of any identified disparities.
3. Determine the causes of any identified disparities.
4. Elicit community input, reaction, and recommendations related to identified disparities.

5. Identify strategies to address identified minority disparities, and
6. Make action recommendations to CCF

W. Lawrence stated that potential work group members have been identified; in addition, Commissioners Martha Carroll, Ronnie Price, Maurice Walker would be on the work group and W. Lawrence would serve as Chair. They would convene the work group in September and expect to have a report to the Commission by March of 2010.

Commissioners discussed the enormity of the job but that a lot of the information has already been gathered, significant research has already been completed especially for the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant and that the University of Virginia is very interested in participating. B. Cox suggested reviewing and discussing an action plan.

A motion to move forward and approve the creation and charge of the Minority Disparity Work Group who will present a work plan at the September 2, 2009 Commission Meeting was made by R. Price and seconded by C. Henderson.

- ◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE CREATION AND CHARGE OF THE MINORITY DISPARITY WORK GROUP AND PRESENTATION OF A WORK PLAN AT THE SEPTEMBER 2, 2009 CCF MEETING.**

XI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

G. Ellis highlighted the following items on the Director's Report:

- Director and CSA School Transitions Committee met with representatives of six vendors to discuss Statement of Community Need for day school/day treatment services.
- Award of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students grant should be announced soon.
- \$9,000 JABG grant received.
- Information on two free trainings featuring Karl Dennis, the father of SOC, on September 15th or the 29th will be released tomorrow. G. Ellis encouraged all Commissioners to attend.

B. Cox inquired about the first year report on the CASASStart Truancy Case Manager Program. G. Ellis stated that they are working on the 2nd year report which should be out soon and that the Case Manager has a remarkably successful, solid partnership with the schools, especially Burnley Moran.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE

September 2, 2009

IN ROOM B - ACOB5TH STREET EXTENDED

5:30pm-7:00pm