

LANCASTER COUNTY CHILDREN & YOUTH AGENCY
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
July 15, 2008

Board Members Present:

Karen Jaskot, Patrick McBrearty, Roger Glick, Nancy Valkenburg, Kathy Gregoire, Fr. Allan Wolfe, Edward Tobin, Amy Jo Lutz-Phillips, Dolores Reidenbach

Staff Present:

Crystal Gingrich, Amy Campbell, Betsy Frame, Greg Landis, Kurt Miller, Pedro Rodriguez, Lisa Runge, Nancy Schuyler, Ann Long and Kali Kunkle

Public: None

Guests: None

Call to Order:

Board Chair Karen Jaskot called the meeting to order at 12:06 pm

Approval of Board Minutes:

Fr. Allan Wolfe made a motion that the minutes from May 2008 be accepted. Nancy Valkenburg seconded. Motion passed.

Nancy Valkenburg made a motion that the minutes from June 2008 be accepted. Roger Glick seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business: None

New Business: The possibility of having Advisory Board meetings in the morning was discussed. Several new candidates have expressed interest in the Board but are unable to attend our noon meetings.

Fr. Allan Wolfe moved to change the meetings to the morning. Kathy Gregoire seconded. Fr. Allan Wolfe made a motion that the start time be 7:30 am. Dolores Reidenbach seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

- **Community Relations:** The committee met this morning. They discussed the framework of their committee, press releases, presentations that are made by CYA, attending Resource Parent Association events, and the review of brochures, which the Agency plans to distribute. They will also be having bi-monthly meetings in the future.

- **Children's Services:** The committee met this morning and discussed the programs that Children and Youth will be contracting with for 2008-09. A brief overview listing the programs and the budget amount was distributed.
- **Nominations:** Karen Jaskot and Kathy Gregoire have reviewed the resumes of two potential candidates. We will be waiting for them to send for their ChildLine and criminal clearance and then have them approved by the Commissioners.
- **By-laws:** There are no suggested amendments and there was no meeting held.

Director's Report:

- The State budget was recently passed in Harrisburg. We have been informed there was a 20 million dollar cut from the Office of Children, Youth and Families. Every County will need to take a 1.3% cut in 2008-09.
- The Commissioners recently named a new County Administrator, Charles Douts, who will be starting on July 22, 2008. Mr. Douts is replacing Mark Esterbrook and will be working with the county budget and overseeing 16 county departments. The Deputy Administrator of Human Services, Frank Koerber, had resigned and the Commissioners have eliminated this position. A position called the Human Services lead has been created and James Laughman, current Director of Lancaster County Mental Health/Mental Retardation, will be serving in this capacity
- The State has accepted our License Inspection Summary and sent us our full license. It is posted in the lobby at 900 East King Street.
- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) has received a donation from a local business owner for \$25,000. Once another \$25,000-\$30,000 is donated, CASA will be looking to hire a director for the program. Approximately 25-30 people have expressed an interest in being CASA volunteers.
- There were several performance issues and personality conflicts with employees in the past few weeks. Crystal has done some job coaching and reminding employees of the mission of the Agency.
- A draft of highlights for the FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10 fiscal year budget was distributed. Some of the new items for 2008-09 are the CAP Family Reunification Center grant; enhancing translation services to assist in communicating with families; truancy taskforce; new Adolescent Intake Unit; a Family Group Decision Making coordinator; a full-time sheriff position at 900 East King Street; developing a foster care rate for adolescents who are 18-21 years of age and who want to remain in foster care after high school graduation to further their education; developing a board rate for children 16-18 years of age who are in foster care to assist them in learning independent living skills. In FY 2009-10, there are plans to add another public defender position for Juvenile Probation youths; to develop a Spanish parenting service; to hire another Independent Living position to help support children until they are 21 years of age who have aged out of foster care; and to develop an Ages/Stages Tracking contract. A summary of the planned changes and preliminary budget figures were also distributed to the Board.

- The current Union contract will be expiring at the end of this year. Talks are currently in progress to develop a new contract.

Quality Assurance Department: Amy Campbell

- Amy distributed a current staff organizational chart

Placement Department: Betsy Frame

- Betsy Frame updated the Board on the Adoption and Placement units. There were 11 children reunified with their parent(s) and who had full custody released to them. There were also three children who were released from physical custody during the month of June.

Intake Department: Greg Landis

- Greg Landis updated the Board on the Intake and CPS units. The referrals to the Intake and CPS unit declined during the month of June.

Protective Department: Kurt Miller

- Kurt Miller updated the Board on the Protective and Resource units. He also distributed a monthly reporting form documenting the statistics and changes in his department. There was several new staff hired during the month of June in the protective division and one resignation.

Announcements

- A reminder was given that there will be no Advisory Board meeting in August and in September we will begin the morning meetings.

Public Comment: None

Meeting was adjourned at 1:06 pm

**NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2008
7:30-9:00 am
at the Children and Youth Agency
900 East King Street, Lancaster, PA**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kali Kunkle