

**Commission on Children & Families**  
**January 15, 2008**  
**5:30 p.m.—Holiday Inn Express**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Lois Allen, Les Esparza, Bruce Justis, Barbara Matthews, Shirley Pettersen, Dave Lee, Bonnie Ford, Steve Schenewerk, Sandi Smick, and Jeremy Gegenhuber.

**Members Absent:** Dan Forbess

**Others Present:** Jerry Waybrant, Pauline Martel, Matt Newey, Anna Brown, Debby Burkholder, Lindsey Adkisson, Jessie Lerner, Jane Pitcock, Breeanne Ricks, Jessica Stamey, and Vic Falgout

**Staff Present:** Gail Phillips, Gillian Wesenberg, and Debbie Wheeler

Lois called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Minutes:** Sandi Smick motioned that the November 13, 2008, minutes be approved; Bruce Justis seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Chair's Report:** Lois reported that the Comprehensive Plan is complete. She said that the Douglas County Commissioners will review and approve it on Wednesday, January 16, 2008.

**Director's Report:** Gillian Wesenberg reported on the following:

- ***Request to serve on the Family Support and Connections Steering Committee by Options Counseling*** – Gillian introduced Matt Newey, Options Counseling and Jerry Waybrant, District Manager of DHS. Jerry presented the background on Family Support Connections. He said that this is a community-based program which provides services to at-risk families. Matt said that Options Counseling received the contract to provide the services for the program. Committee members are needed to provide community oversight of the program.
- ***Cops Meth Grant*** – Gillian reported that Douglas County received \$450,000 from the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) to implement a countywide community response strategy to reduce the devastating effects of methamphetamine in Douglas County, Oregon. Gillian added the Commission has been asked to oversee the social services portion of the grant, which includes preparing the Request for Proposal for an evaluator.

- **Build Our Kids Initiative** – Gillian gave an update on the Build our Kids initiative:
  - ✓ **Major Sponsors (contributions of \$5,000 each):** Roseburg Forest Products, FCC Commercial Furniture, DCIPA (Douglas County Independent Physicians Association), LTM Inc. /A Knife River Company, and Mercy Foundation
  - ✓ **Community Sponsors (contributions of \$2,000-\$5,000):** Winston Area Community Partnership, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Ronnie Bruce, Perry & Vicki Murray, Premier West Bank, and Roseburg Rotary.
  - ✓ **BOK - On the Ground:** The Commission will be working with Winston, Riddle, Oakland, and Phoenix School to develop an on-the-ground initiative.

Gillian said the grand opening of the Winston Community Center will be on Saturday, January 26, 2008 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Steve Schenewerk added that the center has a teen center, library, senior center, and meeting rooms. The Commission will have a table with information on Commission on Children and Families and the Build Our Kids Initiative at the opening.

- **Runaway and Homeless Grant** – Our local commission submitted a grant proposal to the State Commission for operations of the Homeless & Runaway Youth Drop-In Center. The State’s Executive Committee recommended our grant for approval. The State Commission will meet on January 31, 2008 to make the final decisions.
- **Summer Food Program** – Gillian reported the State Commission on Children and Families has asked our local commission to continue their work on the summer food program. In 2007, Douglas County summer food sites served 18% of youth eligible for the program. In February, the Commission’s meeting will focus on how to serve more youth through the Summer Food Program.

**Youth Advisory Board Update:** Jeremy Gegenhuber reported that the Keystone Club members participated in the “Day of Sharing.” The Douglas County Coalition for the Homeless sponsored this event as a way to provide needed resources to Douglas County’s homeless population. Jeremy said they have contacted Casa De Belen regarding volunteering; however, they were told that the Keystone members are not old enough to work inside but could work outside on the grounds in the spring. Finally, Jeremy said that on January 25, 2008, the club will be having a “Fun Night” at the Boys & Girls Club to recruit member.

**Review and Approval of the Douglas County High Risk Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan** – On November 7, 2007, a task group convened by the Douglas County Commission on Children & Families met at the Douglas County Library to review Douglas County’s High Risk Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan. The target population for this plan continues to be juveniles who have one or more of the required risk factors and who are at risk of delinquency. These are youth who have come to the attention of school officials, community agencies, law enforcement or the juvenile justice system as a result of their demonstrated risk behaviors. The county’s target has been divided into two groups: (1) Youth with multiple risk factors in Grades 4, 5, and 6 and (2) First time offenders with a high risk to reoffend and chronic offenders, age group 10-17. Matt Newey of Options Counseling provided an overview of the current services being provided under the prevention piece of the plan. Christine McMahan was unable to attend, but did provide materials on the basic services piece of the plan.

**Action:** Barbara Matthews motioned that the Douglas County High Risk Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan be approved; Sandi Smick seconded the motion. The plan was approved.

**Other:** Lois announced that Steve Schenewerk has agreed to serve on the Commission's Executive Committee. She also reminded Commission Members to contact Gillian if you have an interest in serving on the Family Support and Connections Steering Committee or have additional questions.

**Adjournment:** Lois adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Phillips