

Commission on Children and Families
Tuesday, March 18, 2008
5:30 p.m.

Minutes

Members Present: Lois Allen, Bonnie Ford, Dave Lee, Sandi Smick, Barbara Matthews, Joe Laurence, Bruce Justis, Steve Schenewerk, Shirley Petterson, Les Esparza, Dan Forbess and Jeremy Gegenhuber

Others Present: Vic Falgout, Harry Mullins, S. Jeanita Richter, Fr. Juniper Schneider, Gaylene Nixon, Debby Burkholder, Joan Forbess, Anna Brown, Suzy McAmis, Maureen Short, Victoria Rodriguez, Betty Tamm, Janet Holland and Jerry Waybrant

Staff Present: Gillian Wesenberg, Debbie Wheeler and Gail Phillips

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

Minutes: Barbara Matthews made a motion to approve the February 19, 2008 minutes; Dave Lee seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

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

- ***“Build Our Kids” Initiative.*** Commission and Rotary have been working to develop a public service announcement for the *Build Our Kids Initiative*. First public service announcement should be aired in May.
- ***Budget updates:*** Funding from the Child Care Division at the state level has changed for Riddle, Sutherlin and Reedsport. At this time Dave Gianotti is trying to come up with an alternative for funding. If he isn't successful, he will have to close his after-school program.
- ***Douglas County Meth Grant:*** There were two responses for the evaluator position as a result of the Request for Proposal released February 15. They will be rating the two evaluators and choosing one later in the week.

Chair's Report: Lois Allen stated a grant was received for a Runaway and Homeless drop-in center. Harry Mullins reported that Casa de Belen has been suggested as a location. More funds are needed to remodel the facility. If they can get funding by June, the center will be running by September. In the interim, the Boys and Girls Club teen center will be used weekday mornings until noon, which will allow them to take advantage of the lunch program.

Fr. Schneider reported they were given \$100,000 just before the new year to begin a capital campaign for the drop-in center. Hopefully, within the next few months they will start a capital campaign to actually buy the building so Casa de Belen will own it. They have a long-term lease at this time. He stated they have done very well with grants and have received a half million so far.

Youth Advisory Board Update: Jeremy Gegenhuber reported on the following.

- He sent 40 letters to various organizations and service clubs. So far he has heard back from Nancy Sutherlin at UCAN. He is going to ask her to speak at their next meeting on April 7. He also received a response from Tamara Bloom at Savings Grace.
- The Keystone Club is trying to recruit new people for their club. They advertised at the High School and held an ice cream social. They had 14 in attendance.
- *Adopt the Park and Trail:* YAB voted to adopt the nature trail at Stewart Park. They will do foliage and trash clean-up..
- *Truth, Lies and Video* will be held on April 24. The club will visit an elementary school and talk about the dangers of drugs.
- The *Basketball Jamboree* was held last Saturday at Roseburg High School. They raised \$300.

Umpqua Community Development Corporation: Betty Tamm reported on UCDC, which promotes economic development, housing, infra-structure and other activities that help the entire community. She gave an overview of the program established in 1991. They originally started in housing but have added economic development. Their mission is to work with and for low income people to provide safe, affordable housing and community-based economic development. They serve Coos, Curry and Douglas Counties, but have expanded to Jackson, Josephine, Lake and Klamath for one of their programs. The program locates and assists in rehab houses and apartments that are affordable, as well as assisting with self-help building.

Douglas County 2009-2011 Biennial Implementation Plan – Mental Health & Addiction: Janet Holland, Douglas County Mental Health Division Director, met with the Executive Committee on March 11, 2008. She provided a preliminary draft of the plan and an overview of their findings. Based on this review, the Executive Committee

recommended that the commission approve the plan at the March 18, 2008 meeting. Sandi Smick made a motion to accept the mental health plan, and Dan Forbess seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Other:

Harry Mullins reported on the *Day of Sharing*, scheduled for Saturday, December 20.

Lois reported that Gail is leaving CCF to take another job.

Next meeting will be April 15, 2008

Adjournment: Lois adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Wheeler