



**CABARRUS COUNTY JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL**

**October 20, 2021**

**(Monthly Meeting held via Webex)**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Steve Ayers	Megan Baumgardner	Sonja Bohannon-Thacker	Mark Boles
Joy Butler	Carolyn Carpenter	Perry Gabriel	Matthew Greer
Rodney Harris	Brian Heintz	Amy Jewel	Jamica LaFranque
Marta Meares	Heather Mobley	Steve Morris	Connie Philbeck
Sharon Reese	Beth Street	David Wall	Michelle Wilson
Terry Wise			

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Baylee Barkley, Beth Downs, Steve Grossman

**VACANT SEATS:** Youth under 21; Director of LME/MCO

**JCPC ASSOCIATES PRESENT:** Daniel Sevigny, Joanie Bischer

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bryan Dupree (Pinnacle Family Services), Emma Flores (TYM ), Anissa Jones (Teen Court), Karen South Jones (RCYSB), John J Kirkpatrick IV, Kristen McEvoy (Teen Court), Reggie McNeil (TYM), Rose Merriweather (TYM), Sarimar Miller (Court Counselor Supervisor), Chef Kimberly Townsend (Aspire), Claude Whitfield (TYM), Toshina Wiggins (NCDPS), Parnell Woods (Juvenile Court Counselor), James (TYM)

**CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, and ATTENDANCE**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Megan Baumgardner at 7:33 a.m. Megan welcomed members and guests. Attendance was taken silently via the Webex participant log. Quorum was established with 21 of 24 council members present.

*Approval of September 2021 Minutes:*

Megan advised that September Minutes were included in the meeting packet emailed to Council on October 13 and asked if there were any corrections or additions. With no comments heard or seen, a motion to approve the Minutes as written was made by Vice-Chair Mark Boles and seconded by Marta Meares. With no further discussion, the motion to approve carried without opposition.

*Approval of October 2021 Agenda:*

Megan requested Council to review today’s Agenda for changes or additions. With no comments heard or seen, a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted was made by Mark Boles and seconded by Marta Meares. With no further discussion, the motion to approve carried without opposition.

## **UPDATES FROM DPS AREA CONSULTANT**

Daniel Seigny shared current client count/tracking data for each funded program. He stated several programs are off to a strong start, but referrals remain on the low end when compared to previous years. He encouraged programs to contact DJJ to determine if any referrals are in the pipeline.

Daniel stated all programs submitted their final accountings on time and refund notices were sent. Conflict Resolution Center's (CRC) final accounting for Teen Court and Community Service/Restitution remains pending due to mis-categorized expenses and DPS Chart of Account errors. Resolution is in final stages. CRC's refunds due for FY 20-21 are roughly estimated to be \$4,500 from Teen Court and \$2,400 from Community Service/Restitution. Once finalized, CRC will receive refund notifications. Daniel shared the refund amounts due from other FY 20-21 programs. Daniel indicated he plans to assist programs going forward in evaluating funding situations and budget revisions so large paybacks at the end of the year can be avoided.

Daniel stated multiple Council members haven't returned signed Conflict of Interest (COI) forms. He reminded Council that those members who do not submit signed COI forms are not eligible to vote on action items. Without a signed COI for the current fiscal year, DPS does not recognize members as acting and valid. He urged members to ensure their signed COI forms are emailed to Megan.

Regarding monitoring activity, Daniel stated Mark Boles has begun scheduling his monitoring meetings. Daniel requested other committee chairs to begin their scheduling as soon as possible. DPS authorizes virtual meetings during COVID, which allows committees to conduct monitoring activities virtually or in person. He also mentioned that one monitoring committee chair is vacant and requested a volunteer.

Daniel stated the only legislation update since Council's last meeting is that a state budget has not been passed. Negotiations remain ongoing and the hope is that a budget will pass before the end of this month.

Daniel advised members to read DPS' *Gift Cards Best Practice* flyer (included in the October meeting packet). This practice will become DPS policy effective 7.1.2022. Daniel added this policy will prevent cash from being used toward inappropriate purposes, such as for the purchase of tobacco or alcohol. Gift cards can be monitored and tracked, whereas cash cannot. Many programs currently use gift cards as an incentive or stipend for participation in, or completion of, a program.

Daniel advised that DPS' annual report for Juvenile Justice is posted at [www.ncdps.gov](http://www.ncdps.gov). He encouraged Council to review the report because it is a good resource for statewide and local data. He added that data specific to Cabarrus County will be reviewed by the Risk & Needs Committee, which will convene today immediately following Council's meeting.

Before moving on, Megan asked if there were any questions or comments for Daniel. Mark Boles advised that he accepted the vacant chair of the SOSE&T Monitoring Committee. Joanie added the chair of the monitoring committee for YDI Programs remains vacant. Perry Gabriel volunteered to accept the chair position. Daniel and Megan expressed appreciation. Daniel advised that a Council vote was not required.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Responding to members' questions regarding COI forms, Megan advised they are due now. Joanie will follow up with those members who haven't yet submitted COIs. Megan explained the importance of getting those forms to her as soon as possible. Megan further advised that committee rosters were included in October's meeting packet and requested members to be aware of the committees to which they belong. She asked members who are

willing to serve on more than one committee to contact Joanie. Megan explained that committees conduct valuable tasks that would otherwise be required during the monthly meetings. Council's monthly meetings flow more smoothly and efficiently when committees are active and well organized.

Megan provided an update on Council's vacant seat for *Chief of Police or Designee*. Chief Gacek recommended Sgt Matthew Greer, who manages Concord City Schools Resource Officers. Megan advised that the Board of Commissioners approved Council's recommendation of Sgt Greer during its October 18 meeting and she welcomed Sgt Greer. The vacant council seat for Cabarrus County School Student (Youth under 21) was then discussed. Megan asked Joy Butler and Amy Jewel to determine if one of their students could fit early morning meetings into his/her schedule. The Youth under 21 council seat offers value but is difficult to fill due to school workloads and class schedules. Amy asked for the requirements of the student role to be provided. Daniel responded he will email Joanie with DPS' description. The possibility of a student from one of the early colleges was also discussed.

### **NEW BUSINESS / ACTION ITEMS**

Megan advised that Lashay Avery's Application for Appointment was included in the October meeting packet. Lashay is Regional Director of Community Operations for Partners Behavioral Health Management. Her appointment would fill the *Director of Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization or Designee* seat vacated by Noel Thomas-Lester on August 31. Megan opened the floor for comments and discussion. Connie Philbeck motioned to recommend Lashay's appointment. Motion was seconded by Sonja Bohannon-Thacker, who also personally vouched for Lashay. Megan called for Council's vote verbally or via Webex chat. The ayes carried with no opposition and the motion was approved. Lashay's appointment will be considered during the BOC's November 15 meeting.

Megan yielded the floor to Kristen McEvoy, CRC Executive Director, to discuss a request for FY 21-22 budget revisions. Kristen became Executive Director in August 2021 following Cynthia Seaforth's departure. After reviewing CRC's FY 20-21 final accounting and this fiscal year's budget, multiple line item codes that did not match DPS' Chart of Account codes were discovered. Further, several line items were needed to accommodate incurred expenses. Daniel clarified that CRC's request for budget revisions are line item adjustments only; CRC is not requesting additional funding. He reviewed CRC's request and agrees the revisions are necessary to correct issues identified with CRC's final accounting. Mark Boles motioned to approve CRC's line item adjustments. Brian Heintz and Michelle Wilson seconded. Megan called for Council's vote either verbally or via Webex chat. The ayes carried with no opposition and motion was approved.

Megan discussed reporting goals for Monitoring Committees. Because Council's work becomes very "funding heavy" after January, Megan requested that all Monitoring Committees plan to report during Council's November or December meetings with the January meeting being the latest. No issues were expressed by Council members with those goals.

Megan indicated that Daniel had previously addressed DPS' new policy for gift cards. Daniel stated he had nothing further to add.

Megan yielded the floor to Mark Boles to explain the JPCP Digital Business Card application he developed. Using his mobile phone, Mark described how the app will potentially function and identified the users who might benefit. (A link to the test app was included in today's Agenda.) He spoke with multiple law enforcement officers and first responders who had no idea JPCP programs existed. Responses were positive and many thought the app would be beneficial. The app requires further testing on various products. It could also be a web page and/or

posted to JCPC's website. It needs approval from DPS and Legal. Megan asked if Council wanted to proceed with development and approval. Multiple members expressed approval verbally and via Webex chat. Mark indicated that should the app be launched, someone within the county's IT Department can be trained on how to maintain the app. Daniel added that he approached DPS management about the app and everyone appeared impressed and enthusiastic. He awaits final approval. Rodney Harris stated he will approach IT to determine what cyber security issues might exist and if the app is something they can support. Council will receive updates as Mark continues the app's development.

Megan reminded Council that the Risks & Needs Committee will meet virtually immediately following today's meeting and everyone is invited to join. She added the Committee will review and evaluate relevant data for the development of JCPC's Request for Proposal to be published in January.

#### **UPDATES FROM PROGRAMS / COUNCIL MEMBERS QUESTIONS FOR PROGRAMS**

Megan opened the floor for comments, questions, or updates from program managers. Karen South Jones asked Daniel if programs should develop agency policy now to accommodate DPS' gift card best practices. Daniel replied that DPS will send notifications to programs to update policy as the effective date approaches. Reggie McNeil commented how much he appreciates JCPC's progressive and forward thinking in supporting programs. Sonja announced a free virtual training opportunity on trauma impact scheduled for October 27. Connie also mentioned a free virtual training opportunity scheduled for Dec 10 on shame and sexual offending. Emails regarding both training opportunities have been sent.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Megan opened the floor for member comments. Michelle Wilson asked Reggie if TYM was experiencing staffing issues in its Cabarrus mentoring program. Reggie replied there were no staffing challenges but there appears to be a volunteer shortage due to COVID. Michelle explained that she made a referral four weeks ago and followed-up each week thereafter. She finally spoke with Dwayne and James yesterday. Reggie described TYM's referral protocol and added that Dwayne is transitioning out of a mentor-specific coordinator position into which James is now transitioning. Reggie added that he will personally address the referral issue. He provided his cell number via chat and invited anyone to contact him when issues arise.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Megan opened the floor for any further comments or questions. She referred Council to the *Need to Know* section of today's Agenda. With no further discussion, a motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Chair Boles. Motion was seconded by Michelle Wilson. Hearing and seeing no opposition, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

*Submitted by Joanie Bischer*