

M I N U T E S

MONDAY, April 22, 2013

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

McEaddy Conference Room
12th Floor, 301 N. Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach

Members Present:

Daniel Alexander
Rosalyn Baker
James Barr
Peter Blanc
Mike Driscoll
Douglas Duncan
George Elmore
Carey Haughwout
William Kramer
Kathleen Kroll
Christina Morrison
Gerald Richman
Valentin Rodriguez
Chuck Shaw
Priscilla Taylor
Lee Waring

Barbara Cheives
Immediate Past Chair

Guests Attending:

Ann Berner, South East Florida Behavioral Health Network
Bryan Cummerlin, West Palm Beach Police Department (for Chief Demasi)
Mimi Coenen, Workforce Alliance
Barbara Dawickie, Court Administration
Michelle Dryer, Workforce Alliance
Mike Edmondson, State Attorney's Office
Pamela Eidelberg, County Attorney's Office
Michael Gauger, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (for Sheriff Bradshaw)
Lawrence J. Leon, School District Police Chief
Jenise Link, Public Safety
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
Corey McCaster, Workforce Alliance
Debra Oats, Court Administration
Louis Tomeo, Clerk & Comptroller's Office (for Clerk Bock)

Members Absent:

Dave Aronberg
Sharon Bock
Ric Bradshaw
Nelson Berrios
Vincent Demasi
Rolando Garcia
Feirmon Johnson
Dave Kerner
Nellie King
Barry Krischer
John McKenna
Robert Shirley

Ex-Officio Exec. Cmtee.
E. Wayne Gent

Staff Present:

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director
Arlene Griffiths, Administrative Assistant
Shahzia Hashmi, Criminal Justice Analyst
Katherine Hatos, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Damir Kukec, Research & Planning Manager
Rosalind Murray, Criminal Justice Program Development Specialist
Craig Spatara, RESTORE Initiative Program Manager
Mike Szakacs, Financial Analyst II
Becky Walker, Criminal Justice Programs Manager

- I. Chairman Douglas Duncan called the meeting to order and extended welcome to members and guests.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chairman Duncan invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Vice Mayor Priscilla Taylor and second by Mr. Lee Waring.
- V. The minutes of the March 25, 2013 business meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Vice Mayor Priscilla Taylor and second by Mr. Randy Johnson.
- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Chair Duncan:
 - A. Reported that Mr. Harvey Oyer sent regrets for not being able to serve on the CJC, as he was appointed to the Education Commission. The Economic Council of Palm Beach continues its efforts in filling this seat. Mr. Barry Krischer also sent regrets for not being able to attend, but said he looks forward to participating.
 - B. Advised that the next CJC meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 28, 2013 due to the Memorial Day holiday on Monday.
- VII. Under Executive Director's comments, Mr. Rodriguez:
 - A. Reported on staff changes at the Juvenile Detention Center saying that the Superintendent and his second in command were relieved of their duties, but that he was waiting for further details.

Judge Kroll added that she attempted but failed to obtain details in this regard. She commented on concerns about closing the Center, but said that the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) indicated that was not her thoughts at this time i.
 - B. Advised that evaluations are still ongoing and said that the Program Monitoring and Evaluation Committee would be meeting soon to agree on performance measures and hear the full scale evaluations for drug court and

reentry. He also noted that the RESTORE (Reentry) project was one of two sites on a final list to undergo a full evaluation by the Urban Institute, and if selected, will be guaranteed funding through 2015.

- C. Advised that the CJC was still waiting for information on the federal formula grants which he is hoping to get within the next month.
- D. Announced the upcoming retirement of Mr. Mike Driscoll from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and thanked him for his years of service to the CJC. Mr. Driscoll will be on extended leave before retiring, but this would be his last CCJ meeting.
- E. Welcome back Shahzia from maternity leave.

VIII. Business Consent Item

There were no business consent items.

IX. Old Business

Juvenile Civil Citation/Juvenile First Offender Program

Mr. Rodriguez remarked about the issue that was previously brought before the CJC, and expressed his wish for a position on the issue by the CJC. He noted that it is being looked at by staff and other committees, including the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiatives (JDAI).

Civil Citation is a process where all non-violent juvenile first time offenders are diverted from the formal court system without tarnishing their records. He said that the JDAI Committee is close to a unanimous consent about moving forward with this issue, but noted the concerns by some law enforcement, the State Attorney's office, and the School District Police. He commented on the language in a Bill that would have made it mandatory that has caused law enforcement some concerns, but said that the Bill died and is no longer an issue. He is therefore hoping that law enforcement will now come on board to moving it forward. He also reported on a meeting with Commissioner Vana and the State Attorney's office, saying that while the State Attorney agrees with the concept of civil citation he is concerned about the details.

Ms. Becky Walker mentioned the issue of equal access that is lacking in the current way it is set up, as youth are giving sanctions without being assessed. She said that this would allow more uniformity and not disrupt the current diversionary programs in place.

Members sought clarification on the issue and exactly what the CJC is asked to endorse or not endorse. Mr. Rodriguez said that his hope is to have everyone on board with whatever program is identified that will allow equal access across the county. Vice Mayor Taylor remarked about members voting on an issue that is lacking the details.

Judge Kroll added that a number of committees have been looking at juvenile civil citation, saying that most of it came out of issues where statistically, children of color are dealt with differently from others, noting that the numbers in most

communities are skewed. Judge Kroll expressed her interest in the CJC looking at all juvenile programs including civil citation, and to be able to obtain data. She said that this is a trend and not just in Palm Beach County. Chief Alexander agreed with Judge Kroll, saying that the CJC is an excellent mechanism to determine what is working or not. He said that it needs to be looked at on a countywide level as each agency runs its individual program. Chief Lawrence Leon of the School District informed the meeting of a program at the School District that incorporates all municipalities and works with the Sheriff's office, and could even incorporate civil citation, but expressed concerns with the assessments in terms of who will be doing it and how it will be funded.

Chair Duncan reiterated the need for more details, like a working paper of the various interests involved. Vice Mayor Taylor remembered when the civil citation was done in Miami and their low numbers compared to the rest of the State. She noted the fact that more minorities have been affected by not having something in place, and expressed her interest in seeing a comparison of what we have versus what it would be if the civil citation was done. Ms. Barbara Cheives commented on her time on the Blue Print Commission saying that she is comfortable talking about what can be done at the county level. She cited the most important issues as the language "shall" as it addresses disproportionate minority contact, as well as the kids getting into any system. Chief Deputy Gauger added that there are trepidations with the processes, but noted that there has to be a system to determine first time offenders. He said that with the Law Enforcement Exchange (LEX) going forward, they might be able to determine first time offenders but only at the county level. Also, while he thinks it is a great idea for young people who make minor mistake not to have it on their record for the rest of their lives, caution must be taken in doing so.

After further discussion, Chair Duncan requested that staff bring more details about the issue and specifics on what the CJC is voting on. It was agreed that input be sought from the State Attorney, Public Defender, Courts, and the Chiefs Association.

X. New Business

There were no business consent items.

XI. CJC Initiatives/Updates

A. Sunshine Law, House Bill #361

Mr. Gerald Richman reported on a meeting with the Economic Council of Palm Beach County, where he was informed by Mr. Daniel Martell, President, that the Bill was placed on special order in the House and said that it will be on first reading in the Senate the following week, and that it had a good prognosis for passing. Mr. Richman will update the CJC accordingly.

Chair Duncan thanked Mr. Richman and his committee for all the work they do on this issue and hope that it passes.

B. South East Florida Behavioral Health Network

In his introduction, Mr. Rodriguez noted that the CJC does a lot of work with social services because of the kind of population in the criminal justice

system. He said that the state of Florida recently went through a process for all the districts to identify a managing entity to control each district.

Ms. Ann Berner, Executive Director of the South East Florida Behavioral Health Network advised that her agency is the managing entity for behavioral health services on behalf of the State of Florida and the Department of Children and Families. The entity is on a three year contract managing adult and children substance abuse and mental health services for the 15th and 19th Judicial Circuit. South East Florida Behavioral Health Network oversees about \$30M annually for Palm Beach County in services as well as the coordination of Medicaid reimbursable services, and also acts as a safety net for the community. They fund a lot of services that are not covered by the traditional health insurance programs or Medicaid, and work closely with State hospitals and discharge planning.

Ms Berner said that the agency's main priorities include substance abuse and mental health prevention and looking at appropriate services for the community. Their community-based Board of 25 ensures that service and systems integration are addressed while leverage existing resources. One of the main issues cited is the lack of appropriate step down services for citizens coming back to the community.

The agency is looking to streamline the process, but remarked about the difficulty in funding managing entities as they have to be funded by service provider administrative costs. She expanded on the services provided by her agency and some of the current programs. Ms. Berner has met with several agencies working with human services in the County and is optimistic about the short term improvements and better outcomes, and looks forward to working with the CJC.

C. CJC Grants Worksheet

Mr. Rodriguez presented the grants spreadsheet that provides a status of the grants received and monitored by the CJC. This he said will be updated and distributed on a quarterly basis. Members inquired about various programs including the Youth Empowerment Centers and were provided with explanations and clarifications accordingly. Mr. Richman inquired about data showing the effectiveness of the various programs, to which Mr. Rodriguez advised will be presented at the next CJC meeting.

XII. Under Member Comments, Judge Kroll inquired about the list of juvenile programs in the community that was promised for the April meeting.

XIII. With no further items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 a.m.