



## WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

### WORKING SESSION

October 5, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Chair Solowczuk at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room, Administration Building, 220 North Main Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Comms. Bergman, Grewal, Gunn, Irwin, Kern, Ouimet, Prater, Sizemore, Smith, Solowczuk

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Comm. Peterson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bob Guenzel, County Administrator; Frank Cambria, Deputy County Administrator; David Behen, Dale Vanderford, Ken Schrader, Information Technology; Scott Patton, Organizational Development; Dave Shirley, Facilities Management; Denise Dalrymple, Mike Scholl, Public Health; Mark Lindke, Veteran Services; Kerry Sheldon, Administration, Stephen Kirschner, Clerk's Office; various citizens; and members of the press.

#### Roll Call

#### Citizen Participation

None.

#### Commissioner Follow-Up to Citizen Participation

None.

#### Discussion Items

#### Human Services Community Collaborative Update

Frank Cambria gave a brief history of the Community Collaborative and expressed the desire for the county to become involved. He introduced Peg Talbert, Martha Bloom, Denise Brown, Larry White, Carmella Crosby, DJ Bone, Denise Dalrymple and Mark Lindke.

DJ Bone presented to the board. Report on File at County Clerk's Office.

- I. Community Collaborative
  - a. Purpose
  - b. The Community Collaborative will be:
  - c. Structure
- II. Community Needs Assessment
- III. Community Plenary Session

DJ Bone asked that Washtenaw County Commissioners become founding stewards of this organization.

Comm. Ouimet stated that this is a great step forward and they should be commended for their effort. He asked about the dues. Ms. Bone stated that there is a sliding due schedule, based on ability to pay. Comm. Ouimet asked how they will market to the private sector. Dj Bone, Peg Talbert and Martha Bloom responded. Comm. Ouimet stated that there is a core group of active private investor in the community, and he wants to expand this group.

Comm. Kern, noting that these are tough economic times, asked why these private entities would want to contribute to this program. Denise Brown responded that this is an opportunity for many to get involved in making a difference

in the community. Comm. Kern asked if this will be a vehicle to get grant funding. Frank Cambria stated that this will enable them to leverage different resources to secure some grant funding. Comm. Kern asked how they intend to maintain the statistical validity of the organization with the funding requirement in place. Ms. Brown replied that for an agency with a smaller budget, the collaborative would be able to work something out for them. Frank Cambria stated that even non members will be engaged in the process. Martha Bloom stated that their goal is to create more inclusion, and will make decision mindful of this.

Comm. Grewal commended the collaborative on their work. She stated that it would be helpful to lay out their vision while selling the collaborative, as this would help set the stage for building the organization. DJ presented the mission statement and vision for the organization.

Comm. Irwin congratulated them on their preliminary work of this subject. He asked about the sliding scale for the dues. DJ Bone responded. Comm. Irwin asked what else is in the leadership agreement besides dues. Ms. Bone responded that the leadership agreement gives the sense that the member is a steward in this community. She stated that it points out that members should support the collaborative. Comm. Irwin asked if the agreement is organization specific or boilerplate. Ms. Bone responded that it is not organization specific. Comm. Irwin asked about the types of partners they see coming into the collaborative. Ms. Bone, Martha Bloom and Frank Cambria responded. Comm. Irwin asked how this might reduce funding for other organizations. Peg Talbert responded that this vying for resources is a reality of the situation.

Comm. Gunn stated that she thinks they are headed in the right direction.

Comm. Smith stated that he likes this concept but has some skepticism. He stated that managing the power relationships between funders and fundees could be difficult and asked how they would manage these. Larry White stated that this process could actually be quite healthy. Comm. Smith asked how an organization becomes a steward. Frank Cambria responded. Comm. Smith asked how the executive committee is filled. Mr. Cambria responded that the stewards approve them. Comm. Smith asked about the relationship between the funders and fundees, and whether this could create a bias in relationships. Denise Brown responded that this is difficult to determine. Comm. Smith asked how often there would be an executive committee meeting. DJ Bone stated one a month. Comm. Smith stated that they need to make sure this organization has the ability to do capacity creation. He recommended having an integration strategy for smaller organizations that do not have funding to become stewards. He suggested even paying the dues for skeptical orgs or corps., to illustrate value to them.

Comm. Solowczuk wished them great success with this program.

### **Space Plan – Overview of Trial Court Presentation**

Bob Guenzel introduced Chief Judge Archie Brown to present on the trial court space needs. He introduced Dan Dwyer and Jennifer Neeman. Report on File at County Clerks Office.

1. The Washtenaw County Courthouse 2006
2. Who Works in the Courthouse
3. What Happens in the Courthouse
4. Who Visits the Courthouse
5. Contraband
6. Transportation/ Parking Lot
7. No Secure Sally Port
8. Interior Security Concerns
9. Other/Secondary Issues
  - a. Where should the Juvenile Center Go?
  - b. Concerns Regarding the juvenile Center's Location Downtown
  - c. Judicial Resource Flexibility
  - d. Parking
10. Recent Security Upgrades

Comm. Sizemore asked where Judge Brown thinks the money will come from to address these concerns. Judge Brown stated that he did not know where the funds could come from. Comm. Sizemore noted that there is not enough parking, and asked for the judge's opinion about this. Judge Brown responded. He stated that he loves the ideas of having a central campus. He stated that the numbers to create a campus are astronomical compared to the funding levels that are being discussed. Comm. Sizemore asked how much more space is needed for the court. Judge Brown responded.

Comm. Bergman stated that she is sympathetic to the courts situation. She asked if they would want to bring the juvenile court downtown without an expansion. Judge Brown responded that without the 15th district court, they could fit without an expansion. Comm. Bergman asked about adding space for lawyer consultation. Judge Brown responded that there could be space without the 15th district. Dan Dwyer noted that while mathematically the juvenile court could fit downtown, functionally it would be difficult.

Comm. Irwin asked about transportation of prisoners and whether the serious offenders could be tried at the service center. Judge Brown responded that this is not feasible. Comm. Irwin asked if there are legal problems with doing these cases at the service center. Judge Brown stated that there are significant logistic issues. Dan Dwyer responded that these are required to take place at the county seat. Comm. Irwin asked if there are criminal rights issues that come up due to the logistical situation and video hearings. Judge Brown stated that the accused have the right to have their accuser present. Comm. Irwin asked if Friend of the Court has to be in the building. Judge Brown replied affirmatively, citing logistical concerns, though noting there are no legal requirements. Dan Dwyer stated that the cases involving families tend to present the largest security concerns, and the court house provides the greatest security. Comm. Irwin stated that he sees the consolidation of the Clerks functions as a great idea. He stated that the space that the Friend of the Court offers the best space for the consolidation of the clerks services. He asked about the use of space on the third floor. Judge Brown responded.

Comm. Ouimet asked if the size of the court rooms is still adequate. Judge Brown stated that they have two court rooms that are adequate, but the rest are not. Comm. Ouimet asked how these other courtrooms are not adequate. Judge Brown expanded on this point. Comm. Ouimet asked if the work that is being done now will be saved through any further renovations. Dan Dwyer responded that these should be able to be kept.

Comm. Kern asked whether this building could ever have the sally port added. Judge Brown responded that the building is useful, and would require moderate renovation and additions to make this work.

Comm. Gunn noted that there are some that would say that that crime rate is down and court cases are down. She asked how the judge would respond to this in advocating expanding the space. Dan Dwyer explained that, while criminal cases may be down, the majority of cases are not criminal. Judge Brown replied that criminal cases are in fact on the rise.

Comm. Smith asked for the judge to explain why Eastern County Government Center is not being used as a courtroom. Judge Brown stated that he does not know whether it is large enough to handle a circuit court trial.

Comm. Grewal stated that security was the top concern from the community. She asked whether the improvements going on now address the security concerns. Judge Brown responded that these are helpful, but they are not complete in solving security problems. Dan Dwyer responded that the new lobby is incredible in addressing the security issue of the public.

Comm. Irwin asked what they do with confiscated items. Dan Dwyer stated that illegal items are confiscated, though some non-illegal items, such as camera phones, are given back.

Comm. Solowczuk thanked the judge for coming. Comm. Solowczuk introduced Scott Patton to address the space plan selecting Options Process.

Scott Patton explained the board on the selection process. Scott asked the board return these by October 12.

Comm. Kern asked if these can be returned to Tammy Richards. Comm Solowczuk stated that this would be fine.

