

Criminal Justice Collaborative Council

CJCC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Administrative Building, Lower Level Conference Room
220 N. Main
May 11, 2007 -7:30 a.m.

Members Attending: Archie Brown (Circuit Court Chief Judge), Brian Mackie (County Prosecutor), J. Cedric Simpson (District Court Presiding Judge), Bob Guenzel (County Administrator)

Members Absent: Lloyd Powell (Public Defender), Dan Minzey (Sheriff)

Others Present: Scott Patton (CJCC Staff), Kenita Montgomery (CJCC Intern), Barbara Levin Bergman (CCAB)

Meeting Convened: 7:38 a.m.

Steering Committee Chair J. Cedric Simpson chaired the meeting.

Supporting Documents

Attendees were given the following documents:

- BOC Presentation Materials

I. BOC Materials

Scott Patton briefed the group on the handouts distributed to the group. Scott Patton indicated that he'd received gotten some feedback from various people, so there has been some changes; a major change having do with slide 6, agency operational issues. It was clarified that this item does not fall under the CJCC purview.

Barbara Levin Bergman expressed that some might ask why the item was removed. Bob Guenzel replied that this is a legitimate concern, but the CJCC are not representative the whole community. J. Cedric Simpson offered that he will go with whatever the general consensus is on the matter, but feels it might be best to leave it and deal with the comments. Scott Patton expressed that he's received tacit approval on the goals, but prefers explicit feedback before it goes to the board next Wednesday and adopted next Friday.

Bob Guenzel offered that the goals were comprehensive enough and covered what the CJCC has been working on. The rest of the group agreed.

Bob Guenzel asked which day was this being presented and if J. Cedric Simpson will be giving the presentation for the CJCC? Scott Patton replied that it was Wednesday, and J. Cedric Simpson will present the data to the CJCC.

II. CJCC Full Council Agenda

Scott Patton stated that the agenda appeared to be very full, but most items would flow relatively quickly. Scott Patton reported that he asked Jim Zwolensky to give a more detailed update than in the past (approximately 15 minutes long). One item the report would focus on would be identifying target audience and how information will be communicated in both internally and externally.

Scott Patton indicated that he had been approached by the crisis intervention team (a group that fosters police training to recognize substance abuse and mental health issues) about doing a report during the meeting. CIT is in the process of applying for a grant, wanted to give an update to the CJCC as far as where they stand. The group will be asking for a letter of support on the grant.

Brian Mackie asked if the grant will be used solely for training. Scott Patton replied that the money is for training, but CIT is looking to increase training in Washtenaw County, as well as expand it to other counties.

Criminal Justice Collaborative Council

J. Cedric Simpson asked if CIT had any links into J-PORT. Scott Patton indicated that there are ties to J-PORT. Barbara Levin Bergman asked if the matter had gone to the community collaborative for a letter of support as well. Scott Patton replied no, but he would contact the Community Collaborative about it. Scott Patton said that he would contact them as well. Barbara Levin Bergman offered that someone could go to the CCAB meeting and speak during public comments and ask for a letter of support.

Scott Patton asked J. Cedric Simpson if he would like to give an update in terms of the BOC meeting on Wednesday.

Scott Patton then discussed next steps/follow-up from last month's retreat. The CJCC will be adopting goals for the next year, so he will put together a 1 page summary of those goals for the group. Scott Patton indicated that he could not gauge the amount of discussion that this topic would draw. Archie Brown suggested sending an email asking the body to be prepared to prioritize and discuss these goals.

Barbara Levin Bergman asked if one of the items on the goal list expanding the continuum of sanctions. If so, she would like to be involved. Scott Patton replied yes, Scott, but cannot tell to what to degree. Archie Brown offered that it might be of value to get CCAB involved, as well as Julie Chaffee, especially if grants are involved.

Scott will then just give a quick update on the County's planning process. Following will be the retreat updates. Scott Patton stated that he would like to have the discussion leaders/chairs give a brief update in terms of what their group discussion and the next steps.

V. Other Business

Brian Mackie expressed that Michigan Prisoner Reintegration should be a standing agenda item, as it is a major issue that will effect the County. Brian Mackie reported that the program is not doing well in terms of funding and the loss of the contractor. The State will be releasing 73 parolees to Washtenaw County.

Bob Guenzel asked what Brian Mackie believes the County can do about the matter. Brian Mackie replied that there is misconception that MDOC has been providing these services to offenders. Now the State is pushing more responsibility to the counties. Brian Mackie expressed that there needs to be push back to expose what the state is doing, and all the associations should be active. The State is promising the program and not providing the services.

Barbara Levin Bergman added that there are not agencies in this community that will provide services for people that do not qualify under the code (or do not have vouchers for services); this exacerbates the situation. Barbara Levin Bergman asked what does the County about behavioral health issues, when those people do not fall under anyone's purview or qualify for the services.

Archie Brown asked that with regards to the probation residential center, does this body now picture something different for that project. Archie Brown offered that the people that the PRC was originally intended for are no longer in the jail..

J. Cedric Simpson offered that with regards to this discussion, the CJCC needs to be update monthly, given how quickly this situation can change. Also, additional information may need to be provided to the Full Council so that everyone understands the impact.

Archie Brown asked what role the CJCC should play in this matter. Archie Brown expressed that this could potentially be the subject of an op-ed piece in the Ann Arbor News, signed by several CJCC members to. Brian Mackie reiterated that the goal is t put pressure back on the state, and agreed that it would be of value to educate the public on this matter.

Bob Guenzel inquired as to how to present this data in as comprehensive way to the CJCC, and who would be the best person to do so. Brian Mackie indicated that he could give the same presentation that he gave to the police chiefs and to the steering committee.

Criminal Justice Collaborative Council

J. Cedric Simpson stated that ultimately, this will impact any recommendations that the CJCC makes in the future, so the body has to understand who is coming into the jail. Archie Brown offered that a one page of bullet points laying out the chronology of where the County is would generate a fair amount of discussion.

J. Cedric Simpson suggested that the body Add MPRI as a regular agenda item.

J. Cedric Simpson reported that two things that have been occurring from the pretrial committee: 1) the committee will have some data on the notices and 2) the committee has begun the process of trying to allow the public defender to withdraw prior to the first preliminary examination to shorten the time periods.

J. Cedric Simpson indicated that thus far, the committee has tested the PD withdrawal system, as has been able to avoid seven conflicts. This is only with prior representation- but this may not cover potential witnesses in the case.

Adjourned: 8:20 a.m.

Next Steering Committee meeting: 5/8/07.