

Williston Community Justice Center Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2019

Present: Crista Lee McSweeney (Director), Steve LaTulippe (Coordinator), Marty DelNevo (Chair), Lillian Colasurdo (Vice Chair), Greta D'Agostino, Catherine Kimball, Beckett Pintair, Diane Kinnon, Shari Carr, Hannahlei McSweeney, Mia Marinovich, Liz Merrill, Lorayne Lapin, Marion Cushner, Katie Titterton, Cathy Kelley, Brant Dinkin, Adina Panitch, Anne Thompson, Bree Kolibas

Absent: Jon LaBrie, Tim Moran, Ali Wainer, Amanda Payne, Bill Pellechia, Mary Reynolds-Wahl-Greer, Laura Wainer

Welcome and Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

- a) Shortened meeting tonight due to Town Meeting at 7:00.
- b) Minutes from the Feb. 4th meeting were distributed. One correction made:
 1. Greta D'Agostino was absent for the last meeting.
- c) Motion to approve minutes with noted correction: Lorayne Lapin.
Motion seconded: Liz Merrill.
Minutes approved.

II. Office Updates

- a) Steve will be retiring at the end of March. The Board thanks Steve for his service to the WCJC over the last 10 years. His last official day will be March 28, 2019.
- b) The WPD has approved the rehiring of Steve's coordinator role (24 hrs/wk) plus a new part-time position (15 hrs/wk) to help work with victims. Both open positions should be posted soon and the WCJC office will hopefully be back up to full staff in a few months. One position will be paid for through grant funding and the other by the WPD.
- c) We have a potential graduate student intern joining us. In addition, Cristalee is exploring the possibility of recruiting a MSW intern to work with clients and victims.
- d) Cristalee is looking for volunteers who are interested in helping her with restorative parenting classes for "parents at-risk of incarceration." These begin mid-April and will be on Wed. evenings from 6-8 pm for 12 weeks. Participation

- requires a separate set of background checks. Prevent Child Abuse Vermont will host and provide the curriculum.
- e) The WCJC will be participating in the Williston Central School Substance Use Forum again this year. The Forum will be on April 10th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.
 - f) The Community Justice Network of Vermont (CJNVT) has been dissolved. This eliminated a large web presence for the WCJC (and other CJC's). We are planning to move forward with a new, more interactive and informative website for our center.
 - g) There is another new set of security requirements for WCJC members to go upstairs to the office without a staff escort. This will require a new fingerprinting process and a new online test (based on FBI requirements). Everyone will be provided with a photo badge they must wear when in the building.

III. Upcoming Trainings

- a) DOC's new trainings for new volunteers will begin in mid-March. Cristalee will complete those trainings for approximately 25 new CJC volunteers (from throughout Chittenden Co.). Once these are done, she will schedule the trainings for the existing board members. These will be held over the course of four Thursday evenings for three hours each.
- b) Reminder that there are opportunities to participate in free, online Victims' Engagement and Elder Advocacy Trainings. Cristalee can provide more information.
- c) We will be bringing Sam Himelstein, Ph.D. to provide a training on ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences). Due to his schedule, this training will only be offered for one evening.
- d) There may be an opportunity for another Bridges Out of Poverty training. More information will be coming.
- e) Cristalee is going to offer another "Creative Contracts" training at the end of April. The training will include work with a creativity specialist and a mindfulness specialist and should help prevent people from getting stuck in a "contract rut."

IV. Youth Panel Updates

- a) There was a [recent article](#) in Kids VT Magazine about the WCJC Youth Panels. This article was shared nationally, and many other communities have reached out

to Cristalee for more information about our Youth Panels. We are also being presented with an award for our work with youth.

- b) As some of our current Youth Panel members prepare to graduate this Spring, we will be recruiting new members. We are hoping to recruit more members to create a “Youth Court” through our center. This would be the first of its kind in the state.

V. Miscellaneous

- a) The Peace & Justice Center wanted to know if we had any interest in being a piolet for a “Social Justice Book Group.” Anyone interested should talk to Cristalee so she can help you set it up with the library.

VI. Adjournment

- a) Motion to adjourn: Brant Dinkin
Motion seconded: Greta D'Agostino
- b) Marty Del Nevo, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm

Minutes submitted by: Lillian Colasurdo, Vice Chair