

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION

Approved Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2015 4:30-6:30pm

Marin's Community School, 1111 Las Gallinas Avenue, San Rafael

Commissioners Present: Dana Pepp, Laura Kantorowski, Marilyn Mackel, Marissa Wertheimer, Don Carney, Gerald Ingraham, Carolyn Placente

Commissioners Absent: Laily Majlessi, Belinda Ingraham

Guests: Lisa Schwartz, Judge Faye D'Opal

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:35pm.

Appreciations

The new Chair began the meeting with an appreciation and recognition of Laura Kantorowski and Marissa Wertheimer for their wonderful service as former Chairs of the Marin JJDPC.

II. Review and Approve March 2015 Minutes

One correction to the last meeting's minutes: Don Carney should be noted as Vice Chair rather than Co-Chair.

III. Nomination for a new JJDPC Secretary

Laily is not able to be here today and may not be able to continue to participate due to her new, intense job with a start-up that is demanding a lot of her time. She will be evaluating her ongoing participation as she continues to settle in to her new job. In the interim, Commissioners will rotate note-taking duties. Carolyn will take notes for the first portion of today's meeting and Don will take notes for the second portion of today's meeting.

IV. Review Police Department Detention Video

A. Create questions for police department inspections

To better inform our process for police inspections, the Commission viewed a video created by the Board of State and Community Corrections regarding the policies and procedures that govern the detention of juveniles in police custody.

B. BSCC update

Gerald, as any youth, can participate in Police Department Inspections, provided there is no history of involvement with the Juvenile Justice System.

The Chair asked Commissioners who have participated in Police Department Inspections previously to share any insights regarding the inspection process. Comments included viewing the entire facility, reviewing guiding documents and practices, as well as records that were an accurate reflection of practices. Previously, Commissioners have prepared an inspection form/questionnaire with spaces for comments, along with a written document outlining the inspection process.

The suggestion was made to use the inspection process to build relationships with our law enforcement partners. Another suggestion was made to ensure that the questions enable the Commission to analyze differences in data and practices. For example, why do some jurisdictions routinely hold more minors than others?

Sample questions could be:

- What criteria do you use to hold youth in detention?
- Do you have a specific script that is used when explaining to youth why they are being held?
- What is being said to youth as they are being held?
- What happened to the youth after they were held?
- If a youth is under the influence, how do you determine whether they need to go to the hospital?
- How do you determine whether there are any mental health concerns?
- What data are you collecting?
- What is the number of juveniles being held?
- If there's an incident, how is that recorded and what determines an "incident"?
- What criteria are used to determine "Serious Risk"? What does "serious risk" mean? Does it mean different things in different departments?
- How are homeless youth handled through this process?

The Chair inquired whom we might be meeting with when doing the inspections? The suggestion was made to begin with the Police Chief, who will likely delegate the task to the youth officer.

Another suggestion was made to request copies of any guiding policies and procedures from the departments so that we could review them prior to conducting the inspections.

Judge D'Opal offered that there is book available to guide the Commission in this work. This may also be available online.

Marilyn provided a copy of a 2003 document entitled the Police Officer's Log that is used to guide police in documenting their youth detention.

The question was raised as to whether we have the ability and purview to connect with youth who have been held in detention. It is unclear whether this would violate confidentiality.

Welfare code that governs inspections: WIC 200-224.6

A suggestion was made to create space for youth and families to share their experiences with the Commission. This does not have to necessarily be a part of the formal police inspections. A related suggestion was made to hold a more accessible meeting and do more concerted outreach to draw in families with concerns about youth involvement with the juvenile justice system. Lisa offered to facilitate connection with the school site council at Marin's Community School, as well as at other alternative schools. This or these meetings could take place at the beginning of the school year.

Could it be possible to develop an anonymous survey for youth and their families in detention? Could our partners in law enforcement collaborate with us on this survey?

C. Reconfiguring inspection teams

Marin City Inspections: Belinda, Marissa, and Gerald

Mill Valley Inspections: Don, Belinda

Central Inspections: Laura, Don

D. Timeline

Dana is going to write up the questions, the Commissioners are going to provide feedback (in the next 2 weeks) and each group will schedule their inspections for May/June.

V. Updates

A. Recruiting new Commissioners

- Judge D'Opal suggested looking to the educational community
- Don will contact Robert Flynn and ask if he is interested
- Marissa will make a pitch for JJDP Commissioners at the August SLEP meeting
- Campus Supervisors should/could also be approached

B. Truancy Summit

- Commissioners shared their feedback about the recent, well-attended, informative Truancy Summit.

VI. Reports

A. Probation

- 13 in total, 8 boys & 5 girls
- 24 total in March
- Marin numbers are consistent with the Bay Area
- Firearms have been more of an issue in the past few years
- The firearms are tied to gangs and drugs as it relates to the hall population

B. CFS

- Marissa will speak with Deb Moss, to see if she can attend either the May or June meeting

VII. Announcements, next steps and May's agenda

Additional Notes and Next steps:

- Children and Family Services will be our guest in May or June
- Don will send the link for the Grand Jury report on Foster Care
- Gerald will request the approval from Morgan to produce JJDP letterhead
- JJDP to send a press release on Gerald's appointment to the TAM High student magazine. Marissa and Gerald to coordinate

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.