

FAMILY POLICY BOARD COMMITTEE

Monday, April 4, 2016

Law Enforcement Center – Room 1615

12:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kim Cable, Chris Crye, Mike Desmond, Megan DeVore, Gloria Doyle, Sharon Hampson, Sarah Johnson, Grace Jones, Ann Kappauf, Lacie Ketelhut, Kim Knutson, Jason Larsen, Lisa Luckey, Mary Meehan-Strub, Joseph “Nerd” Pigott, Valerie Prange, Pat Ruda, Ruthann Schultz, Beth Sullivan, Jimmy Westland, Jodi Widuch, Jason Witt, Mary Kay Wolf, Elizabeth Wright

Guests: Mandy Bisik, Mary Kessens, Sarah Johnson, Tracy Puent, Pam Squires, Boo, Karma, Lurch

CALL TO ORDER: Pat Ruda called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2/01/16 MEETING

Pat Ruda asked for a motion to approve the March 7, 2016 meeting minutes. **MOTION** by Grace Jones/Ann Kappauf to approve the March 7, 2016 minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND BOARD UPDATES

HHS Board Update/Family Policy Board Executive Committee: Sharon Hampson

Sharon stated that there will likely be changes to the Family Policy Board Executive Committee as there are discussions in progress about creating a 501c3 backbone organization to coordinate system approaches to create positive outcomes for vulnerable children, youth and their families. The Executive Committee of this new organization would have a similar focus and similar membership as the FPEB, therefore, it is likely the FPEB would be dissolved if things proceed. The Family Policy Board itself, however, would not change as a result of this. We will keep the Family Policy Board posted as discussions continue.

HS Director Update: Jason Witt

Jason Larsen announced the open house for the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative which is Wednesday, April 6, 2016 from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm at the Washburn location (526 10th Street).

Jason Witt reminded everyone of the Annual Rebuilding of Summits which is August 30, 2016. Jason stated that all district teachers will participate this year.

Family and Children’s Section Update: - Tracy Puent

Tracy Puent announced that national foster care month is coming up. The Family & Children’s Section will be promoting foster care through signs and the media.

AGENCY PRESENTATION: Biker’s Against Child Abuse (BACA) – Joseph “Nerd” Pigott, Troy “Lurch” Lichart, Boo and Karma

Lurch stated that it is BACA’s 20th anniversary. BACA was funded in Utah and are now in 9 countries and 48 states and there are currently 298 temporary chapters. BACA is non-profit and any funds raised from fund raisers go to helping children with therapy, dance, horse riding, etc. The mission of BACA is to empower abused children. There was discussion between the board members and guests with BACA representatives about how BACA works with the children, where the referrals come from, what types of agencies they work what type of training(s) they must go through before they can interact with children. For more information on BACA their website is www.bacaworld.org.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Child Protection and Safe Environment – Tracy Puent

Tracy Puent went over the structure of Child Protective Services (CPS) and the responsibilities of each unit within CPS. Tracy stated that the number of Access reports that were screened during 2016 was 1,618 CPS reports and 44 child welfare reports which equals 1,662 total reports. This number is factored in duplicated cases/families. Tracy also stated that calls have increased over the past few years and the case load for a social worker in the Ongoing Unit is about 10 cases per worker.

The next FPB Meeting we will look at continuum of care.

ADJOURN

Pat Ruda Adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, May 2, 2016.

Approved May 2, 2016, Tammy Bond, Recorder