

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
June 6, 2006
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Judy Rossow, Ed Kubicki Ruth Booth, Bill Grady, David Arrington

Staff Present: Dennis Schultz, Bob Riedl, LaVerne Jaros, Laurie Staves, Tom Orendorff

Others Present: Dan Melyon, Brad Weinstock, Jerry Bonini, Emily Ayshford, Kenosha News

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Judy Rossow, Chairperson.

1. Comments by the Chair - None
2. Citizen's Comments - None
3. Approval of Minutes - 5/2/06

MOTION to approve minutes by Bill Grady, seconded by Ed Kubicki. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Resolution to Approve the County Executive Appointment of Supervisor Ed Kubicki to the Human Services Board

MOTION to approve by Ruth Booth, seconded by Bill Grady. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Health: Resolution to Modify 2006 Budget for the Receipt of Grant Funding for the Minority Health Coalition Project

Laurie Staves stated that this is a \$7,000 competitive planning grant awarded by the State to determine the viability of the formation of a minority health coalition in Kenosha. The difference in the revenue increase of \$7,000 and \$5,360 in expenditures is the levy savings of \$1,640 in personnel costs.

MOTION to approve by Ruth Booth, seconded by Ed Kubicki. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Health: Resolution to Modify 2006 Budget for the Receipt of Grant funding for a Staff Training Project

Laurie Staves said that this is a \$16,500 competitive grant awarded by the Federal CDC to evaluate a communicable disease research curriculum. This will impact the epidemiologist and 4 public health nurses and will be used in assessing STD's and HIV in our local area. The difference in the revenue of \$16,000 and \$9,160 in expenditures is the personnel cost savings.

MOTION to approve by Bill Grady, seconded by Ruth Booth. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Update on the Homeless Shelter

Dan Melyon, Director of the Shalom Center, and Brad Weinstock and Jerry Bonini, Co-Chairs of the Board, attended this meeting at the Committee's request to provide an update. Mr. Melyon said they are trying to acquire a piece of property and about a week ago they secured it with an option to purchase. They are also engaged in conversation with 2 fund-raising firms to assist with the capital campaign. They want to keep the site a secret to be able to talk to the neighborhood businesses and residents first, before it hits the News. The Shalom Center runs a quality program and has a strong impact on helping people. They plan to start the capital campaign in the next few months.

Mr. Bonini added that they have a Building Committee which has building plans they have worked on in the past, so that process keeps moving.

Mr. Melyon, Mr. Weinstock and Mr. Bonini responded to Bill Grady's questions. This will be new construction. The design is one building to include the soup kitchen, food pantry, shelter program, offices, counseling, training, and classrooms. The estimated cost is \$4 - \$5 million. The annual operating costs are currently \$1 million for the existing services. The estimated additional cost for the shelter program would be \$250,000 - \$500,000, depending on how many people we put into the building. They don't plan to hire more than a couple extra staff. The INNS program is run by volunteers and so is the food pantry. They will control their expenditures as best as they can. They will try to sell the building they are currently occupying.

8. Update on Family Care Expansion

LaVerne Jaros said that Racine and Kenosha counties are currently planning together. Waukesha, Ozaukee and Washington counties may go with another consortium. Kenosha representatives met with State representatives last week and it was very positive. They understand our concerns for additional economic support staff to do financial eligibility. They are looking at ways to support us in those efforts. They will also work with us to get the waiting list eliminated by the end of 2007 and will make this a priority. The transition will be a minimal cost to the county.

Dennis Schultz stated that Kenosha will be setting up a meeting with Racine next week. We need to plan this in our 2007 budget and this will move fast. Family Care will start in February 2007, and by the end of 2007, the transition will be complete. Racine and Kenosha will have similar programs. The other 3 counties are tentative, don't have the same needs, and are associated with other counties.

Ms. Jaros added that Kenosha has pursued Family Care for 5-6 years. The State felt a commitment to Kenosha, and we have been preparing. Racine wants to be next.

Judy Rossow said that Kenosha's management teams are way ahead in Wisconsin. Mr. Schultz added that the State made the same comment at last week's meeting.

9. Brookside: CNA Recruitment & Retention

Dennis Schultz stated that he, Bob Riedl, and Sandy Hardt came up with some suggestions for the CNA recruitment and retention problem. (1) Improve the interview questions to elicit critical thinking skills. Bob Riedl commented that we have the need to transform the interview questions to engage the candidate more. We want to be sure we are getting the best qualified candidate. (2) Assign the new CNA to a mentor who has been there for maybe 5 years to guide the new employee during the 90-day probationary period. Maybe we can also be flexible in extending the probationary period to completely evaluate the new CNA. (3) Change the schedule to 40 hours for full-time and 24 hours for part-time and weekends mandatory. CNA's will be eligible for benefits and more money. This will be part of the 1392 union contract negotiations later this year. We need the union's buy-in.

David Arrington asked how CNA's are currently trained. Mr. Riedl replied that many of our CNA's are qualified, coming from other nursing homes. They are assigned to teams working a wing. This is group training versus our proposed individualized mentor training. Mr. Arrington also suggested training the mentors.

Ed Kubicki stated that the mentor program sounds like a good idea to him and gave kudos for coming up with this idea.

LaVerne Jaros said that CNA recruitment and retention is a problem county-wide, state-wide, and nation-wide.

10. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law - None

11. Committee Members Comments

Bill Grady requested that updates on the homeless shelter, Family Care, and CNA recruitment and retention be placed on every agenda.

12. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Ed Kubicki, seconded by Ruth Booth. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

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