

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
January 20, 2009
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Terry Rose, Jeff Gentz, Dick Kessler, Jennifer Jackson, Jaron Arbet

Committee Members Absent: Ed Kubicki and Andrea Vagnoni, both excused

Staff Present: John Jansen, Bob Riedl, Jennie Tunkieicz, Frank Matteo, LaVerne Jaros, Dave Geertsen, Derrell Greene

Others Present: Co. Bd Supr Mark Modory, Nick Paskowski, Louise Principe, Loran Hein, Norma Carter, Sandra Beth, Jack Rose, Joe Potente, Kenosha News

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Terry Rose, Acting Chairperson. Mr. Rose explained that Ed Kubicki was in Washington DC attending the inauguration.

2. Citizen's Comments

Nick Paskowski spoke on the appointment of the CVSO. He does not speak for, nor represent, any group. He is a Vietnam vet and friend of Edo Macari. Derrell Greene has had a good military career, but he has no knowledge of vets services. The person in this position must possess much knowledge. The military and VA are different. There is a huge difference between the private sector and government. The current Assistant CVSO is qualified for this position and he is supported by the Kenosha Veterans Council. The Assistant position to the CVSO should be moved to the director position, and Mr. Green moved to the Assistant position.

3. Approval of Minutes - 12/8/08

MOTION to approve minutes by Dick Kessler, seconded by Jeff Gentz. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

4. Resolutions to Approve County Executive Appointments as follows:

Jack Rose to the Aging and Disability Resource Center Board

Jack Rose stated that he really appreciates the opportunity to be on this board. He serves in various capacities in the community. He has been president of NAMI-Kenosha County for 3 years. He is also chair of the MH/AOD Committee. The committee members commented that they had all heard nothing but good things about Jack Rose.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Jennifer Jackson. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

Dr. James Foster to the Board of Health

Frank Matteo said that he is appearing for Dr. James Foster who could not be here tonight. Dr. Foster has been an excellent member of the Board of Health for 6 years. He is on the Healthy People Kenosha County Committee.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes', and Jennifer Jackson abstaining.

Loran Hein, Norma Carter, Sandra Beth, and Ross Boone to the Commission on Aging

Loran Hein said that he just completed 2 years on this commission.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

Norma Carter stated that she was appointed mid-term about 2 years ago. She enjoys being on this commission. She has worked with the community all of her life.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

Sandra Beth said that this is her second term, and she has enjoyed it. She is the Chair at the current time. She has a history of care giving, is a retired nurse, and cared for her elderly parents until their deaths.

MOTION to approve by Dick Kessler, seconded by Jennifer Jackson. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

Ross Boone - LaVerne Jaros appeared for Mr. Boone, as he lives in Twin Lakes and couldn't make it tonight. He is having difficulty driving at night. He has been a very active member on this commission. Ms. Jackson added that she knows Ross Boone. He is very active in CUSH and is a good person.

MOTION to approve by Jennifer Jackson, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

Supervisor Jennifer Jackson, Supervisor Mark Modory, and Louise Principe to the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency Board

Supervisor Jennifer Jackson -

Mr. Rose distributed a copy of an e-mail from Supervisor Breunig pertaining to the appointment of Supervisor Jennifer Jackson to the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency Board. Ms. Jackson asked to set the record straight about that e-mail. She did show up to the meetings, although she had pneumonia and did miss one. She stated that this e-mail is out of bounds. She regularly attends the ESN meetings and is pretty involved in the human services area.

MOTION to approve by Dick Kessler, seconded by Jeff Gentz. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

Supervisor Mark Modory said that he is looking forward to serving on this board. He has vast experience as a member of the Red Cross. Ms. Jackson and Mr. Kessler said that Mr. Modory would make a great addition to this board.

MOTION to approve by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

Louise Principe said that she has been a past County Board Supervisor and has served on other committees. This is an honor to serve on this committee. Ms. Jackson commented that Louise often thinks outside the box and she will be proud to serve with Louise Principe.

MOTION to approve by Jennifer Jackson, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

5. Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Derrell Greene as Director of the Division of Veterans Services

Derrell Greene stated that he has been living in Kenosha for 11 years. He retired from the military, specifically the Army, in 1997. He agrees with much of what was said earlier. He does know how to lead and he does know how to run an office. The CVSO is an advocate and that is what he is all about. He wants to be sure that all vets get all of the benefits they are entitled to. He has spent time with some of the veteran organizations in Kenosha. He doesn't know the manuals yet, but he will. When vets leave our office, they will have answers. They will be treated with respect. Mr. Greene said that it is an honor to serve veterans. His father was in the military for 29 years, so he was raised in the military.

Jennifer Jackson said that she knows Mr. Greene through his work with the NAACP. He has been a very active member. He will do an excellent job in this Veterans Director position.

Mr. Greene said that in this position you can reach out and touch people, and that is what he has been doing all of his life. As an officer, that is what you do. While working in the trucking industry, he was also working with the families. Everyone in the Kenosha County Veterans Office is friendly, and the veterans get all of the benefits they need.

MOTION to approve by Jennifer Jackson, seconded by Jeff Gentz. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Jaron Arbet also voting 'yes'.

6. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law - None

7. Committee Members Comments

Jennifer Jackson said that she was at an ESN meeting on Jan 15th. They were talking about how to keep that group going. The Women's Horizons Mardi Gras fund raiser will be held on Feb. 28th. Women's Horizons is at capacity and have been for a year now. The Salvation Army has expanded their mental health services. On Jan. 30th, The Healthy People Kenosha luncheon will be held at the Job Center. Human Services Committee members should receive their invitations.

8. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary