

Minutes of the
Interagency Steering Committee
March 27, 2006

- CALL TO ORDER: John Anderson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, March 27, 2006, in the ICOE Board Room, El Centro, California
- ROLL CALL: Present: John D. Anderson, Rita Brogan, Bruce Coon, Sam Couchman, Mark Gillmore, Mike Kelley, Jim Semmes, Dr. Stephen Roeder, Warren Sherlock, Victor Jaime (for Paul Pai)
- Absent: Robertta Burns, Mary Camacho, Harold Carter, Ralph Cordova, Jr., Judge Barrett Foerster, Jerry Godsey, Robin Hodgkin, Mike Horn, Norma Jauregui, Gilbert G. Otero, Paul Pai, and Chris Yeager
- Others in Attendance: Janet Thornburg and Theresa Bonillas
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Mike Kelley, second by Mark Gillmore to approve the minutes of February 27, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.
- APPROVAL OF RFP'S CHILD CARE AND PARENT COUNCIL AND SURE HELPLINE: Janet Thornburg presented this item for Pam Littrell who was unable to attend the meeting. Janet stated this item was introduced to the Committee in October. She reported that two bids were received in response to the RFP for Child and Parent Council and Sure Helpline.
- Motion by Jim Semmes, second by Mike Kelley that the two proposals received be recommended to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Motion carried unanimously.
- DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES: Janet Thornburg stated she is seeking approval from the Committee to submit an application for the Drug Free Communities grant. She gave a brief overview of the program. She did stated that the application requires that multiple substances be addressed in the application and she is including underage drinking and the use of marijuana, which have been shown to be frequent causes for seeking services. She also reported that the Friday Night Live Program will be the vehicle used to raise community awareness of these problems in their communities. The application is due April 10. Motion by Jim Semmes, second by Victor Jaime to approve the submission of the Drug Free Communities Grant application. Motion carried unanimously.

LCC & ISC REPORTS

LCC Meeting

Bruce Coon gave the following report:

- LCC met on March 9
- Vivian Perez, LCC Co-Chair gave a brief report on an Asthma Camp sponsored by the Lung Association
- John Grass reported on the Assessment Center
- Janet Thornburg reported on the Drug Free Communities application
- FRC Report:
 - Mary Morris reported that they are currently managing 120 families
 - Raul Navarro & Patty Dueñas reported on the Health Fairs to be held at their respective sites
 - Alicia Rubalcaba is working with the Homeless Task Force
 - The Calexico FRC is conducting two parenting classes
 - Rita Duarte reported that the Brawley FRC has 15 parenting teams under CalSOAP
- Jose Carrillo presented the ICOE Snapshot

ISC Coordinator Report

Janet Thornburg gave the following report:

Town Hall Meetings Reminder – March 28, 2006 – 6:00 p.m.

- There is a Town Hall Meeting website

FRC Coordinators Meeting Update – MOUs

- The MOUs are being updated and will be using the Brawley MOU as a model. This should be ready to bring back to the Committee in about six weeks for submission to County Counsel

Forum for Service Providers for Youth Programs

- ISC, WIB, and DSS representatives met with Service Providers for Youth Programs on March 16th to provide program and data updates, to discuss what is working and what is not working, and emerging trends in client populations. Providers identified a number of critical elements including: youth involvement in development of programs; non-traditional hours of service, afternoon-evening-weekend; staff that could connect to youth; and speak their language. Providers reported the most significant issues facing their clients were: alcohol and substance abuse for client or family members; lack of

information about availability activities for youth; lack of parental involvement; and pressure to have sex and related STDs and teen pregnancy. Providers reported that early use of alcohol, marijuana and other drugs was becoming more prevalent especially around 7th grade, but that even earlier was not uncommon.

Janet went on to report that the CHK Surveys are showing that alcohol and drug use is starting early. The results are showing experimentation starting in junior high school. The question was raised if a survey of college-age students has ever been taken. Victor Jaime recalled that a survey had been done in the mid-80's. He and Janet will get together to develop an instrument for a possible survey.

Social Host Ordinance

Janet reported that the Town Hall meetings will be used to introduce the Ordinance to communities and see if there is any interest in supporting the SHO. It will again be shared with police chiefs, mayors and city councils.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Jim Semmes reported that County Departments are submitting budget requests and he will be requesting that DSS clerical staff at the FRCs be converted to permanent employees.
2. Warren Sherlock announced he has been transferred from Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention to Mental Health and is being replaced by Debbie Witt. He also thanked John Anderson, Rita Brogan and Janet Thornburg for their assistance, accuracy of shared information and their professionalism in his recent request for information.
3. Sam Couchman reported that the Empowerment Zone is up and running and are ready to voucher in the Brawley and Mesquite areas.
4. Mike Kelley reported he met with Governor Schwarzenegger in Sacramento.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 24, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.