

1 **COMMUNITY JUSTICE TASK FORCE MINUTES**

2 **Monday, March 4, 2013**

3 **Putman Meeting Room**

4 **Brookens Administrative Center**

5 **1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

6
7 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carol Ammons, Scott Bennett, Astrid Berkson (Chair), Lynn
8 Branham, James Kilgore, Darlene Kloeppe, Julian Rappaport,
9 Michael Richards, William Sullivan

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11 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bruce Suardini

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13 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Pattsy Petrie (County Board Member); Deb Busey (County
14 Administrator), Gerri Kirchner, Linda Lane (Administrative
15 Assistant)

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17 **Call to Order**

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19 In the absence of Berkson, Ammons called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. She asked
20 for nominations for a chair of this meeting. Rappaport nominated Ammons; seconded by
21 Kilgore. Nomination approved.

22 Kilgore said he would like the public meeting added to the agenda. Ammons stated it
23 would be item IV. A.

24
25 **Public Participation**

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27 Pattsy Petrie handed out copies from the book *The Third Lie* that she read from at the
28 last meeting. She said the pages could be of help to the task force. She also handed out a
29 booklet titled *A Place in Time; Two Paths to a Television Broadcast*.

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31 **Approval of Minutes – February 11, 2013**

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33 **Motion** by Bennett to approve; seconded by Kilgore. **Motion passed unanimously.**

34
35 **Discussion – Specific Proposals**

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37 Ammons opened the discussion for proposals. Berkson mentioned the email of
38 Suardini's proposal, Kilgore mentioned the safe return home proposal, and Rappaport stated he
39 had brief elaboration of his proposal. Kilgore suggested skipping Suardini's proposal since he is
40 absent. Kilgore referenced the handout he gave at the last meeting about a safe return home
41 proposal for people being released from DOC. He gave statistics for Champaign County. He
42 stated the key to funding is to have a director administer the program and have formerly
43 incarcerated people trained to link people to resources for housing, substance abuse, etc.,
44 when they leave jail. Ammons asked if this proposal will go into the proposal to the Board.
45 Kilgore said yes because it deals with the issue of reducing recidivism and racial disparity.
46 Sullivan clarified this program is not directed at people released from County jail but for people
47 who are released from incarceration that would be coming to live in Champaign County. Kilgore
48 said it's specifically dealing with people on parole in the State. Kilgore noted that a parole
49 offender may spend weeks in the County jail before being transported to DOC. Bennett said that
50 the County pays for transportation back from DOC for any trials. Branham said it's important
51 to show the financial impact and thinks we should reach out to the state to address getting
52 funding. Kilgore said there could be support from both cities and that the state does have
53 funding that can be applied for. Branham stated that re-entry begins at sentencing rather than 6
54 weeks to 3 months before release. She said it's important to have the individual's involvement in

55 the re-entry process.

56 Rappaport, noting that funding comes up every time something specific is mentioned,
57 recommended establishing an office with an ongoing group of people who are looking for local,
58 state, and federal funding to support the programs. Branham asked if it could be a criminal
59 justice planner who also provides support to coordinating council. Rappaport wasn't sure what
60 would work within the structure of the County. Berkson suggested getting help from Busey.
61 Kloeppel stated that RPC is one of the grant writing entities of the County for transportation,
62 social services, etc. She noted they don't designate full-time people just to look for money, but
63 would write a grant if the Board felt it appropriate. Rappaport felt it's something that needs to be
64 done on an ongoing basis and felt it would be appropriate to recommend having the Board adopt
65 as a policy. Kilgore noted the possibility of drawing in other parties for funding opportunities.
66 Ammons said it would be part of the recommendation for alternatives to the current jail situation,
67 but every aspect doesn't have to be figured out. Busey suggested sticking to Rappaport's
68 recommendation without trying to figure out where or how to place the program. Kilgore stated
69 that looking for funding is good but need to have readily available kick start money to start the
70 programs. Ammons noted that Suardini's proposal for a detox center is critical and that the task
71 force makes it a priority. Berkson stated that Suardini has found a lot of outside funding to start
72 and felt it was good to have that and then ask the Board for additional support funds. She felt
73 that type of approach would have a more positive response from the Board. Sullivan stated that
74 creating a reasonable cost analysis of savings is a compelling argument for support. Kloeppel
75 said she was hoping to put numbers in the table she came up with from the visioning exercise
76 that show how many people are affected and what money is saved. She noted that it should be
77 up to the Board to decide what programs will be implemented and where the funding comes
78 from. She can't see that the task force is giving the Board something they can decide upon.
79 Rappaport agreed but stated that precise numbers won't be known until a program is
80 implemented. Ammons said numbers from activist groups could be used and they shouldn't
81 spend too much time on semantics. She also noted that the Board will want complete proposals
82 that include numbers. Branham noted that they shouldn't fall into a money trap, but should also
83 be sensitive to public safety. Kilgore said they can extrapolate best practices from other
84 counties by using numbers they currently have. Ammons stated it doesn't have to be decided at
85 this meeting. She suggested that the process be worked out by the proposers of the several
86 areas and be brought to the next meeting. She recommends discussing proposals briefly and
87 giving the committee room to make adjustments.

88 Ammons moved to Rappaport's proposal and the adjustments he made. Rappaport
89 stated that his proposal was short on purpose. He stated the need to deal with the reality of
90 local capacity, and the ongoing problem with the police not having any place other than the jail
91 to take people with mental health issues. He felt that if the County put up some money they
92 could get matching funds from the cities. He also suggested asking local agencies to give
93 a proposal for how they would use the funds. He recommended using a case manager approach
94 for efficient use of money currently spent. Busey suggested not worrying about the sources, not
95 to mention the ¼ cent tax or court services, but to have the Board look at all areas. Kilgore
96 agreed that all money needs to be in one pot and everything needs to be re-examined. He
97 thought Rappaport's proposal should be worked with Suardini's to make them one. Branham
98 agreed about not saying where the money comes from but that for their own purposes they
99 need to look at that. Berkson commented that this started as ways to keep people out of jail who
100 don't belong and it's become about dealing with people while in jail. She felt they needed to
101 move back to keeping people out of jail.

102 Ammons moved to the topic of a public meeting with CUCPJ noting that Petrie had
103 arranged a space. Kilgore questioned who will host and sponsor the meeting. There was
104 discussion regarding the task force's and Board's involvement. It was decided that CUCPJ will
105 sponsor and invite the task force, Dr. Kalmanoff and the Board. Sullivan asked when the
106 meeting is. Kilgore said March 28 at the Champaign Library.

107 Branham asked about the structure of the report. She suggested a 3-part document with
108 the first part a short 2 page overview of the recommendation, the second part would show more
109 details to show that recommendations are based on research, and the third part would include
110 tasks to be completed. She also suggested one person put together for consistency in writing.
111 Kloeppel suggested starting with where they are going and putting each point under. Branham
112 asked about a time table for completion and said that what she and Bennett have done on pre-
113 trial services will be presented to the task force at the next meeting. Ammons suggested the
114 task force move forward in a timeframe to be completed by June 17.

115 Kloeppel explained how she organized the results from the visioning exercise. She
116 noted the first page had the vision statement, the second page is strictly the notes taken by the
117 facilitator, and that on the third page she tried to capture substance. She said she created a
118 table matching recommendations with vision goals. She stated that when trying to get grant
119 funding people will want to see something like this and it also provides a good summary form for
120 the Board. Kloeppel said she will try to make everyone's recommendations fit into the chart.
121 Branham stated the need for data and also said they needed to put in the need for evaluation.
122 Kloeppel said they may not have a baseline for some of this. Berkson said that the need to keep
123 people out of jail is falling by the wayside and that it is important to have. Kloeppel noted that it
124 is part of pre-trial and diversion services. Branham said they needed to give a sense of the
125 impact it will provide. Bennett stated that there could be the best diversion in place and there
126 would still be people in jail because of mandatory minimum sentencing. Ammons said that as
127 proposals are finished to send them to Kloeppel.

128 Rappaport asked if the charge included youth. Berkson said that it was added when the
129 new task force was put together. Branham said it can be addressed in crime prevention.
130 Ammons stated that juveniles would be a whole separate study but they could put in their report
131 that it is something the Board should look at. Rappaport stated that Kloeppel's chart is helpful,
132 but that if numbers are put in they need to be prepared to defend them.

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134 **Next Meeting**

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136 Ammons stated that the next meeting will be Monday, April 1, 2013 at 6:00 in the
137 Putman Room.

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139 **Adjournment**

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141 The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

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144 Respectfully Submitted,

145

146 Linda Lane

147 Administrative Assistant