

COMMUNITY JUSTICE TASK FORCE MINUTES**Monday, April 15, 2013****Putman Meeting Room****Brookens Administrative Center****1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Ammons, Scott Bennett, Astrid Berkson (Chair), Lynn Branham, James Kilgore, Julian Rappaport, Michael Richards, Bruce Suardini

MEMBERS ABSENT: Darlene Kloeppel, William Sullivan

OTHERS PRESENT: Deb Busey (County Administrator), Gerri Kirchner (League of Women Voters), Linda Lane (Administrative Assistant)

Call to Order

Ammons called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Rappaport to approve agenda; **seconded** by Berkson. **Approved unanimously.**

Public Participation

None

Approval of Minutes – March 28, 2013

Ammons asked for any corrections to the March 28, 2013 minutes. Branham said that on page one line 50 it should read “limiting it to 6-10 pages per recommendation.” **Motion** by Berkson to approve minutes; **seconded** by Kilgore. **Approved unanimously as amended.**

Committee Reports – Specific Program Recommendations**Mental Health (Rappaport)**

Rappaport highlighted the current problem, the fact that the Sheriff and police think it's a problem and that local data supports that claim. He said that in 2012 the Sheriff listed 53 people with serious mental health issues. He stated that the Urbana Police have kept the best statistics but that Champaign police and Uofl police will start keeping stats as well. Rappaport said that when police call for help regarding mental health issues the help isn't always there because there aren't enough crisis intervention people. He said they end up taking people to the ER, either with or without a crisis worker who may be able to get someone to get help voluntarily. Ammons asked if the Urbana stats were annual and wanted to know if the number was the number of people or the number of incidents. Rappaport said incidents and noted that some Urbana police are trained in crisis intervention. Suardini commented out of 17,000 bookings in 2012 with a capacity of 280, out of that 280, 130 were marked at least 10 times repeat offenders. Rappaport stated that laws are very stringent for involuntary commitment and that hospitals are reluctant to do so. He said that Champaign currently has no place for these people and suggests a crisis center be set up where the police could take people after arrest but prior to booking. Berkson commented that it sounded like he wanted a separate low security jail. Bennett asked if officers had the choice could they take people to the center without arrest. Rappaport felt it could serve both purposes. Rappaport stated people in an acute mental health episode usually are calmed down in about a day. Suardini said that is why pre-trial is needed and he mentioned the Presence CRC movement. Rappaport said that Presence Medical could be a facility where part of it could be made secure. Suardini noted that Presence isn't providing any money; they are just donating

55 the space and the providers are invited to come make up the resource center. Kilgore asked Rappaport
56 to go thru the recommendations without all the background. Rappaport said that the background isn't
57 always clear to people. He noted there is the assumption that among the pre-trial screenings there will
58 be questions about people with mental illness. He said the only way that screening will have impact is if
59 there is a resource for them. He said that some number of people would have to be locked up, but not
60 necessarily in the current jail. He stated they need something qualitative and recommended the jail
61 provide some social workers, paid for by the jail, working in conjunction with the screening and helping
62 locate services. He also recommended that the County pay for crisis intervention workers who would be
63 out with the police. He proposes that the County seek out assistance from the police departments
64 and/or cities.

65 Ammons asked for questions and comments. Branham mentioned the most important step
66 would be getting a behavioral health system. She felt it was important to pick no more than 5
67 implementation priorities. Rappaport said he only had 2. Branham commented that behavioral system
68 of care pertains to both mental health and substance abuse. She said rural areas need to be included,
69 it isn't clear where the numbers come from, and she didn't see the issue that the current provider at the
70 jail isn't local. Rappaport said he addressed all those things. Branham said it wasn't leaping out that.
71 Discussion continued.

72 Richards said he noted a lot in the proposal about collaboration, etc. on the outside. He asked
73 who would run it, would it be under the County umbrella, and had Rappaport talked to public health
74 agencies. Rappaport said he thinks this is under the radar of public health right now. He thinks
75 someone in the County should be in negotiations with the public health districts, one of which should be
76 a County public health district. He noted it needs to be understood that relationships need to be
77 pursued and the County isn't powerless. Richards said the Mental Health Board doesn't administer
78 these things and thinks this falls under public health.

79 Kilgore said it might help to have some sort of timeline and a director of this system. He felt the
80 funding from the County should be for a person who's going to run it rather than someone who's going
81 to find money for it. Rappaport said there isn't anything to administer and the County needs to create
82 some sort of funding. He said the organization needs to be created first and doesn't think the County
83 should provide the service, but provide the funding mechanism. Kilgore said the system needs to be
84 located in the County where the person is going to be. Kilgore said the recommendation needs to try to
85 incorporate funding for the position for two years.

86 Ammons said that this is a big piece and Rappaport has laid a foundation to move forward. She
87 asked members to re-read and send comments, resources and recommendations to Rappaport.
88 Rappaport said he would like to receive suggestions but would like someone else to write the next draft,
89 possibly Kloeppel. Ammons said she can't commit Kloeppel to the task but the suggestion is out there.
90

91 **Re-Entry (Kilgore)**

92 Kilgore said he has been to several meetings, has met with IDOC and has received the green
93 light to develop relationships with institutions to make contacts regarding releases. He noted the idea is
94 to phase a program in over three years. The first year would be laying the foundation; the second year
95 would be to expand a program of support. He noted that they are trying to connect to a smaller
96 population and stick with peer mentoring. He stated he will have meetings with service providers who
97 service the people paroled directly to their facilities. He stated that the in the first year they would
98 service the people already here that are being housed but not provided any support services. He said
99 the second year they would have a facility where they can connect people to existing services, and the
100 third year they would connect with housing vouchers.

101 Branham suggested a stronger recommendation asking for an IFP including certain ingredients.

102 She felt that all references regarding funding should go in the funding section of the report. She also
103 said that the State should be approached for funding. Kilgore stated that they are moving up the ladder
104 at IDOC and are trying to get a meeting with someone in charge of programs and will definitely be
105 looking for support from them as well as the cities. He said he wants more information before putting
106 anything in writing.

107 Richards asked that if they had the funding would the program be housed in probation. Kilgore
108 said no, it's part of parole which is different. Ammons noted that the County Board is legislative, not
109 administrative and asked if it could fall under a program thru RPC. She said the money being spent thru
110 the Mental Health Board may have to be reprioritized.

111 Rappaport suggested that if the approach becomes an RFP that they might want to think about
112 putting together a single plan for a way for the County to do RFPs that become a package. Suardini
113 commented IDOC let out a bid last week about reentry and suggested looking at TASC. He suggested
114 Kilgore reach out to them and become part of their statewide plan. He said TASC is both state and
115 national. Richards said it might be better to start out of the County. Branham said that from a public
116 safety standpoint it is very important to place funds.

117

118 **Substance Abuse (Suardini)**

119 Suardini noted that there has not been a detox center in the central part of the state for 3-4
120 years. He stated that nationally 70-80% of arrests are substance abuse related issues. He said that the
121 police won't pick up people in need of detox or when they do, they take them to ER. He noted that ER
122 will not do medical detox; all they do is stabilize and release. He noted that Prairie Center provided
123 detox for over 30 years, but had to cut the program when the State cut funding. He said they served 60
124 of 102 counties and served 800 people per year. Suardini said a \$1.2 million proposal has been sent to
125 the State to re-open a medical detox, with \$875,000 coming from the State and the remainder to come
126 from local funding. He noted that Presence is providing space at no cost and there will be detox in a
127 medical facility for the first time. He stated that they are looking into having a licensed clinician in the
128 ER who can take the patient out of ER into detox or crisis stabilization. He feels there are no
129 alternatives in this area that can fund it or that want to do it.

130 Ammons clarified that one aspect of his recommendation would be detox and the second
131 recommendation is drug court and jail diversion. She noted that recommendation three under drug
132 court is allocating that the County Board maintain a drug court coordinator and a person who works
133 with the deputy sheriff. She asked why that is in the report. Suardini said he is presenting it as a need.
134 Ammons said that revenue not currently coming out of gen ops he is asking to be allocated from
135 somewhere. Suardini said yes. Richards clarified with Busey that there is nothing in the budget to pick
136 up drug court. Busey commented that drug court existed before the grant. Richards asked if the drug
137 court had been ramped up with the grant. Busey said yes. Rappaport asked if they received some
138 funding from mental health. Suardini said they did.

139 Rappaport asked how this relates to the reduction of people in jail. Suardini said that when the
140 center was open the police took people there diverting them from jail but now they take them to the jail.
141 Kilgore asked if there was a way to target the funding with the criminal justice system. Branham stated
142 that while she agrees that a detox center is needed, she doesn't think it will have the biggest impact on
143 the jail. She said that as they look at possible recommendation are there community priorities and
144 options for civil penalty drug offenses.

145 Ammons asked everyone to read Suardini's proposal and send him recommendations and
146 comments. She also suggested obtaining numbers for people charged with disorderly conduct, resisting
147 arrest, etc. that are substance abuse related. Branham said there needs to be a distinction of who
148 needs detox.

149 Ammons asked that everyone send their comments and recommendations to the person who
150 wrote each draft report.

151
152 **Notes from Visioning Statement Meeting 4/9/13 – Kloeppel & Ammons**

153
154 Ammons stated she and Kloeppel met to try to combine the visioning statement along with the
155 recommendations. She asked that everyone look over the draft provided and email thoughts and
156 comments to her and Kloeppel.

157
158 **Other Business – Final Decision – Specific Program Recommendations or General Process**
159 **Recommendations**

160
161 Ammons stated that a final decision needed to be made on whether they were going to present
162 the County Board with specific recommendations (i.e. Prairie Center) or general process
163 recommendations saying the county needs A, B & C.

164 Richards said both so as not to lose sight of the big picture. He said that specifics could be
165 listed under the generals in some instances. Berkson said that if you take specifics the board will pay
166 more attention. Ammons agreed. Suardini stated that whatever they do has to be in conjunction with
167 the County Board. He said the recommendations need to have teeth and show how they are going to
168 accomplish what they recommend. Rappaport said it's important to grasp that the Mental Health Board
169 won't be able to provide enough funds. He thinks when putting the idea of RFPs out that there is an
170 understanding that there is already funding. He said he doesn't want the proposals to compete with
171 each other. Kilgore thinks they need to be as specific and focused as possible. Bennett and Branham
172 both agreed.

173 Ammons noted that the general consensus is to be specific. She stated that the County Board
174 or its administrative arm has to be the one to issue the IFPs and RFPs. She agreed that they will get
175 more consideration from the Board by being specific. Busey commented that if they are going to
176 recommend IFPs and RFPs that they need to include who is going to review them.

177
178 **Next Meeting**

179
180 Ammons stated that Monday's will no longer work for her and asked if they could move to
181 Wednesdays. Everyone agreed to meet Wednesday, May 15 at 6:00 in the Putman Room and
182 subsequent meetings would be Wednesdays. She noted that Branham's Restorative and Criminal
183 Justice Coordinating Council will be on the next agenda.

184 Kilgore asked what happens at the next meeting with these proposals. Ammons said they will
185 only be discussing the changes and recommendations. Branham asked if it would be possible to
186 circulate a revised timetable to operate from. Ammons said it needs to be revised again but once it is
187 she will send it out.

188 Kilgore confirmed that the ILPP draft will be presented to the Board on April 30 and that there
189 will be a public meeting on May 2. He also said they are having a public meeting on April 17 via video
190 conference at the Urbana Library. Busey said the May 2 public hearing will be sponsored by the Board
191 and the ILPP report will still be a draft. She noted that the public hearing is primarily to focus on public
192 comments. Ammons asked if it would be possible to have a flyer to give to the public for that meeting.
193 Busey said one will be sent out.

194
195 **Adjournment**

196
197 The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

198
199 Respectfully Submitted,

200
201 Linda Lane
202 Administrative Assistant