

**LEGAL AND PRACTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE
CHILD WELFARE TRANSFORMATION DESIGN COMMITTEE**

Minutes from the November 18, 2009 Meeting

Advisory Committee Members Present: Gwendolyn Townsend; Jeanine Livingston; Steve Hassett; Nancy Foll; Mary Meinig; Judge Chris Wickham; Liz Mueller; Charlotte McCullough; Dana Phelps for Ken Nichols.

Staff Present: Julie Dunnington, POC; Jennifer Strus, Senate Human Services & Corrections Committee staff; Sydney Forrester, House Early Learning and Children's Services Committee staff; Ben Berres, POC.

Others Present: Beth Canfield; Scott Hanauer; Joanne Moore; David Del Villar Fox

Julie reviewed the Proposed Ground Rules for Advisory Committees with the members. She also discussed the protocol for absent members with regards to voting. Co-chairs will vote rather than cast deciding votes in the event of a tie. The committee also discussed ways to incorporate public comment.

Julie is to put times for each agenda item on the agenda for the next meetings of the advisory committee.

The committee discussed adding additional members to the committee. Julie explained that other advisory committees have added a foster parent, a current or former foster child and a social worker. Julie explained how POC got the names of interested foster parents and foster children.

Steve Hassett noted that he thought the committee was missing representation by a birth parent.

The committee opted to add members to the committee at this time rather than wait until the end of the meeting. The committee voted to add the following seats to the committee with it deciding later who would fill the seat: Office of Public Defense; a foster parent; a foster youth; and a social worker. Joanne Moore from OPD was seated as the OPD representative.

Julie went through the list of foster youth who expressed an interest in serving on the advisory committee. There ensued a discussion about the youth's various backgrounds. Steve Hassett moved that Samantha be the foster youth representative with Zematra being a resource to the committee. Motion approved unanimously.

Julie went through the list of foster parents who expressed interest in participating on the advisory committee.

Steve stated that he thought the foster parent chosen should have experience working with a variety of age ranges and the experience that he or she brings to the committee should not be with just high needs or BRS kids. He also thought it would be good to have a foster parent licensed by a private agency and perhaps someone with experience in rural areas of the state. After further discussion, Mary Meinig moved and Jeanine seconded the motion to add Shala as the foster parent representative to the committee.

Jeanine then explained how the list of interested social workers was devised. There ensued a discussion of each social worker's experience and background. Charlotte suggested that the social worker representative be someone with private agency experience. Steve recommended that the committee also add a private agency social worker and that the state social worker be someone with ICWA experience. Steve moved and Jeanine seconded a motion to defer a decision on a state social worker representative until the committee receives more information on the current names of interested social workers, including ICWA experience.

Steve moved to add a private agency social worker as a committee member. Jeanine seconded the motion. Motion passed.

For the next meeting, the committee needs a list of private agency social workers who would be interested in serving on the committee.

Dana Phelps explained the handout on the two suggested timelines for the demonstration sites. Dana also explained Children's Administration's current thinking on Phase I - performance based contracting conversion. CA is looking to begin the PBC procurement process sometime in the summer of 2010.

Dana explained that there are 4 areas in which CA is thinking PBCs could be grouped:

- Voluntary in-home services;
- Out of Home Care
- High Needs Treatment Foster Care (BRS)
- Independent Living

According to Dana the groupings will be statewide. He Assistant Secretary wants to discuss these groupings with stakeholders and other providers to see if this model makes sense.

Dana then explained solution-based casework including Washington's version called the Practice Model (see handouts).

Each member is asked to review the list of Advisory Committee tasks for the next meeting and be ready to discuss what should stay on the list and what should come off the list. Also, for the items that remain on the list, members should prioritize those items.

The committee would like someone with expertise on federal money and the strings attached to the receipt of that money to the next meeting to discuss these issues. The dates for future meetings were selected as follows:

- January 4, 2010 - 9 to 4 - Location TBD
- February 2, 2010 - 10 to ? - Location TBD
- March 1, 2010 - 9 to 4 - Location TBD

Public Comment was taken by the committee.