

JJAB Minutes

Wednesday, August 17, 2011
Camino Entrada, Pajarito Cliffs Site
Building 1
Los Alamos, NM
6:15 PM

Board Members Present: Alan Kirk, Morrie Pongratz, Pat Casados, Michelangelo Lobato, Janine Tulenko, Mike Wismer, Paul Cook, Linda Anderman, Dave Foster, Tommy Rodriguez, Vicki Nelms, Randy Smith, Megan Pfeffer,

Others: Sharon Marinuzzi, Kristine Coblentz, Jane Johnson, Susan Mack, Amy Jo Rosenbaum, Susan Odegard-Fellows, Bernadette Lauritzen, Oliver Morris, Anna Pabian, Myles Gurule, Cheryl Pongratz

1. Welcome – Chair Alan Kirk welcomed everyone at 6:15 PM.

2. Introductions – Introductions were made by members and visitors. Chair Alan Kirk reminded board members to review the proposed budget for FY12 and come to the Executive Committee with questions if there are any. When money is not spent, it can sometimes be reissued to other programs and some adjustments have already been made.

3. Approval of Minutes – Paul Cook did not receive the July minutes in advance. Coordinator Kristine Coblentz will check the email distribution list and resend. Minutes for the July 2011 meeting were approved.

4. Presentations - Cancelled. Morrie Pongratz, the scheduled presenter, was called out of town. He will arrive late to this meeting. He will present results of the most recent PRIDE survey at a future meeting.

5. Reports from Agencies and Programs -

Family Strengths Network – Susan Mack reported they are busy scheduling classes for the fall. She asked the board for information re: when high school is now released and for feedback re: start time for Girls Circle. The High School now has a last period for activity/academic time. Susan wondered if FSN should move the time up in order to retain participants. Janine Tulenko suggested asking the Girls Circle participants. Youth Mobilizers Myles Gurule and Anna Pabian, as well as LAHS Activities Director Vicki Nelms, all suggested that after school programs should start at 3:30. Bernadette Lauritzen added that it would be good to avoid conflicting with schools and potentially drawing youth away. The last period is optional and an opportunity for students who are behind in school to catch up.

Michelangelo Lobato reported that some students are arriving at the Teen Center during the last period. Teen Center classes will probably be moved up from last year's start time at 3:45 to 3:15 – 3:30. Girls Circle will be taught by Elizabeth Grant.

LACDC – August is Assets month. Bernadette has baked goods to award to the people who distribute the most Assets info. She continues to attend the LAPS monthly administrative meeting. Change of Heart training is scheduled in 3 of 6 schools. She will be attending all of the school open houses.

YMCA - Michelangelo Lobato shared that Amy Jo Rosenbaum is working at the Teen Center and Daniel Yamada has joined the staff. Daniel is a musician, is teaching guitar lessons and will be working on the recording studio. It was a challenge to achieve consistent class attendance in the summer. New fall classes are scheduled and starting. One example is an upcycling class taught by Andrea Lynch – old clothes and materials are made into something new. Teen Center attendance is up from last year – 67 and 72 this Monday and Tuesday. Many new 9th graders are attending which will help build the foundation for attendance in the future.

Public Education Event – Kristine Coblenz shared a report from Katie Bridgewater that the Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch talks, sponsored by LAPS and the JJAB, were a success. Kickbusch was featured as the keynote speaker at the LAPS "Back to School" staff event and gave a free talk to the public on the evening of August 8th at the Duane Smith Auditorium. Her interactive presentation included incentives and personal stories and encouraged parents to spend quality time with their children and children to show appreciation for their parents. She emphasized the importance of community members taking care of one another. Refreshments were served afterward and Kickbusch was available to answer questions and sign copies of her book. The evening presentation was videoed and a small number of copies will be made available. Bernadette Lauritzen would like to incorporate the ideas into her regular newspaper column. School board member Dave Foster added that the staff presentation was very inspirational and interactive and different from the community talk. Kickbusch met with Bridgewater to brainstorm ideas and tailor her talk to this community.

6. Budget - Final budget performance report for FY11 was included in board handouts. Judge Kirk reminded those in attendance that the Undesignated line item in the budget allows the JJAB to respond to ideas, provide seed money for new programs, and fill gaps in the community continuum. It is important for board members to know that money is there and for what reason. CYFD has funded the continuums at last year's level for the remainder of FY12 – the final three quarters will be added to the budget once a contract amendment has been received and signed.

7. Board Areas of Interest –

Teen Center – The county is still settling the contract with the architects so there is no follow up information yet. The goal is still to have a plan to present to the council this budget cycle.

Board Retreat – Tentatively scheduled for October 21st pending conflicts with school activities. The theme is engaging and communicating with youth and addressing how to market to youth and their families. Please let the Executive Committee know of conflicts.

Some questions we may address:

How to engage board members?

Should we reinstate subcommittees?

How to use technology to market/ communicate?

How to communicate/ cooperate more with our agencies and services?

How and how much to evaluate programs.

Input for the Teen Center.

Judge Casados suggested the Teen Center as location for the retreat. The Executive Committee will talk to Father Colin Kelly at Trinity on the Hill (TOTH) site which houses the Teen Center.

CYFD Funding Extension – Funded through FY12. FY13 RFP to come out in November.

County Prevention Grant Request – Judge Kirk informed those in attendance that the County Substance Abuse/ Suicide Prevention funding (\$100K) was awarded to three agencies. None of the three are located in Los Alamos County. JJAB's proposal was declined. Judge Kirk expressed concern re: the County's decision to send money outside the community to provide services here and asked for feedback from the board.

At this point Mike Wismer recused himself from any discussion and chose to leave the meeting in case he should need to consider this concern at a future council meeting.

Coordinator Sharon Marinuzzi explained the process of appeal of an RFP. There is a fifteen day window to appeal but according to the County, the JJAB is not able to obtain any information upon which to base an appeal until all three contracts are signed. Sharon has been in constant contact with the county requesting all information related to the proposals, interview process and awarded contracts and has been assured that the clock does not begin ticking until the finalization of the three awards.

The primary concern is with the RFP process as experienced by the JJAB and whether the review panel followed internal procedures. A panel of 5 was reduced to 3 present at the JJAB interview and then 2 when one member left her county position. The JJAB has not been able to review the competing proposals to see if the proposed programs are evidence-based as required by the RFP. It was pointed out by an attendee that the JJAB should have received extra points for spending the funding locally and for their history of community collaborations and building a network of programs and services, and it was not clear why the contract was awarded to multiple agencies outside of the community.

Judge Kirk emphasized that this is not his personal issue, but an issue of concern for the board to consider. Paul Cook made a motion to authorize the JJAB Executive Committee to pursue an appeal of the award through the county administration process. Janine Tulenko seconded.

Discussion followed. It was explained that the JJAB proposed to partner with the schools and LAFC to provide suicide and substance abuse prevention. It was noted that the contract for the Community Health Council was also awarded out of Los Alamos and that no one in Los Alamos applied. Recent County RFPs have not been advertised in the Los Alamos Monitor which may have affected who did or did not apply. Final comments expressed a desire by members to see tax dollars reinvested in the community and dismay that existing programs were ended in order to fund new ones. The crisis line, for example, is no longer a local number – 820-6333.

Board coordinators confirmed there was a quorum, a vote was taken, and the motion unanimously approved with Randy Smith abstaining.

Youth Mobilizers – Myles Gurule and Anna Pabian reported on the Junior/ Senior Sidekicks mentoring program – incoming freshman are paired with an upperclassman. The year started with a few communication challenges. They are trying to work it out with the High School administration. They do not have a faculty sponsor assigned yet. They will need to redo the pairing process to align with the Freshman Academy plan to have a Team A and Team B. The Sidekicks program is mandatory for freshman and a volunteer opportunity for juniors and seniors. Myles and Anna meet with Vice Principal Milgrim tomorrow and are aware that Linda Daly and JJAB Coordinator Kristine Coblenz will meet with her next week to iron

out any details and make sure the program is running more smoothly. They have started working on a survey about bullying. Paul Cook asked if the Sidekicks program is offered to transfer students as his daughter just moved here. Amy Jo Rosenbaum responded that yes, the program is announced to them at orientation.

LAYL (Los Alamos Youth Leadership) – Susan Odegard-Fellows reported that LAYL has started with 3 teams of 12 students and 3 adult mentors each. The teams have various fundraisers, projects and events planned including: Homecoming Bonfire, 5th Quarters after High School games, Adopt-a-Family at Christmas, and Wild Day in the Spring in conjunction with the Hershey Track and Field Day. Sean Hall returned to facilitate Orientation on August 5th and 6th. It was an uplifting experience for youth and adults. Susan encouraged attendees to consider being an adult mentor next year – it is a great opportunity to spend time with a positive group of youth. Let her know if you are interested. One team is planning a car wash fundraiser on Saturday August 27th at LANB.

Judge Kirk reminded attendees that monitoring the tear down and repair of the parking lot at Sullivan Field was a LAYL project about 6 years ago. The students researched and took photos and created a presentation for Council. As a result, they received a commitment from the County that at the end of construction, the parking lot would be returned to previous standards. It was a beneficial process for the students to work through the government process. Judge Kirk encouraged attendees to consider following up once the parking lot is finished and acknowledging the initial LAYL teams who began this effort.

Assets Prom and Minute to Win It – Bernadette shared leftover candy from her events and offered to give a gift card that was extra to LAYL to be used by them.

Seed Ball Project – Jin Park's event is this Saturday the 20th at various locations: Starbucks, Rocket Park, White Rock Baptist Church, and Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. He has raised \$250 from JJAB, \$500 from the Volunteer Task Force, \$350 from Kiwanis, and over \$100 from community donations so far.

Youth Mobilizers – Youth Mobilizers are looking for projects for this year. Plans and ideas include: Junior/ Senior Sidekicks, Topper Talk, and an Anti-Bullying Survey/ Project. Email Amy Jo Rosenbaum with ideas. Assisting JJAB with a social media/ marketing initiative might be a possibility.

8. Next Meeting Date: September 21, 2011, Building 1, Camino Entrada, Pajarito Cliffs, Los Alamos

9. Adjourn – Chair Kirk adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Alan Kirk, Chair JJAB

Date_____

August 2011/ kpc