

**Los Alamos Juvenile Justice Advisory  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 13, 2009  
6:15 pm  
651 Trinity  
Los Alamos, NM**

**Present:** Alan Kirk, Wayne Torpy, Michelangelo Lobato, Randy Smith, Jody Benson, Morrie Pongratz, Barb Marcille, Vicki Nelms, Grace Brown, Linda Anderman, Meagan Pfeffer, Janine Tulenko, Jeannette Wallace, Darla Dover, Claire Bounds, Tommie Rodriguez

**Others:** Cheryl Pongratz, Sharon Stover, Debbie Gill, Doug Johnson

**1. Welcome and Introductions:** Chair Alan Kirk called the meeting to order at 6:20 pm. He welcomed everyone and everyone introduced themselves.

**2. Approval of the Minutes** - Wednesday, April 15, 2009. Janine Tulenko motioned to approve, Randy Smith seconded, unanimous approval.

**3. Youth Advocacy – Chief Wayne Torpy** The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) wants to prevent crime and invest in kids. Chief Torpy wants to see more adult leadership in youth advocacy. To orient the board, Chief Torpy reviewed statistics from Los Alamos County: 11% of criminal offenses are committed by juveniles; 17 is the age that juveniles are most likely to commit a crime. Of the juvenile offenses, 50% are involved with substance abuse including alcohol, 20% ---vandalism, 15% --- violence (assaults and battery), the remainder -- miscellaneous. The IACP and the Chief want to know, “how do we NOT have police”? What do we do that is different that reduces juvenile crime? IACP postulates that there are three components to reducing crime: early intervention with pre-school programs; 2. child abuse prevention and 3. after school activities. Youth commit violent crime between 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Kids need a place to go and hang out. A suggestion is that Los Alamos create a teen center that has programming flexibility, i.e., one day the teen facility could be a theater, one day a skate park, one day something else. Kids go looking for fun and usually that fun is unsupervised and can result in problems. If we as a community really want to change levels of crime we need to invest in our kids more. The short fall in Los Alamos is that activities for kids dry up in the summer. Kids look for fun with their friends. Usually this fun is unsupervised. Unsupervised time can result in peer pressure and MIPs. How can we as a board become more involved at the local and state level in investing in kids? We can become stronger advocates for kids. We can talk to Randy Smith at the Parks and Recreation Division. Randy described a new inflatable screen for out door movies that the Park and Rec Division will be implementing at local parks. Chief reiterated we need to think differently. We need leaders that listen to kids. Kids need broadened advocacy. We need to get the kids to feel empowered. We need to find a way to NOT need more police involved with youth. Kids are run off from everywhere at 10:00 pm. Where can they go? No place for kids to hang out in Los Alamos. We need to gather info from other successful communities: Phoenix, Santa Fe. We need a Teen Center. Board members actively participated in discussion about what direction could be pursued to become more actively involved in youth advocacy initiative.

**Action Item:** Chair Kirk assigned coordinator to contact all Board Members and find out what ideas they have for a youth advocacy initiative.

**4. National Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference** – Barb Marcille reported on her attendance at the Conference, “Unlocking the Future of Juvenile Justice” in Washington, DC on May 2 – 4, 2009

where she heard presentations from national experts in juvenile justice. Speakers reinforced need for youth to have positive relationships with adults in community. Adults need to develop positive experiences for youth. Barb will send a copy of the report to coordinator who will send to all board members.

**5. Subcommittee Reports -**

Rules – No report

Data and Evaluation – Sharon informed the Board that the report that was planned is postponed due to Marcy Davis having surgery and her inability to meet. We should have the report soon.

Advocacy – Georgina was not present

Finance – Alan Kirk

**6. CYFD Grants & Prevention Program Update** – Sharon Stover reported efforts to generate more open, transparent interaction with JJAC.

**7. Board Areas of Interest** – Tommie Rodriguez requested a coordinated plan on how to deal with truancy issues. Specifically Tommie commented on incomplete truancy packets he is receiving. Barb, Sharon and Tommie will coordinate a meeting. Sharon Stover is hoping to arrange a Family Dinner with the School Foundation.

**6. Adjourn** – Chair Kirk adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

dfg5/15/09