

## JJAB Minutes

Wednesday, May 19, 2010  
Airport Basin Training Room, Building #1  
Airport Basin Road  
Los Alamos  
6:15 PM

**Present:** Alan Kirk, Morrie Pongratz, Michaelangelo Lobato, Linda Anderman, Janine Tulenko, Wayne Torpy, Jody Benson, Jeannette Wallace, Barbara Marcille, Tommie Rodriguez, Megan Pfeffer, Sandy Warnock

Others: Jim Nesmith, Peter Sheehey, Sharon Stover, Debbie Gill, Richard Lindahl, Jenn Bartram, Diana Martinez, Bernadette Lauritzen, Allison Bennett, Dylan Bennett, Molly Niday, Art Brown, William Sky Korber, Peggy Pendergast, Debbie Armstrong, Micah Armstrong, Keanna Cohen, Myles Gurule, Josh Dolin, Anna Pabian

**1. Welcome** – Chair Alan Kirk welcomed members and visitors at 6:24 PM.

**2. Introductions** – Introductions were made by members and visitors.

**3. Approval of Minutes** – April 21, 2010. Motion: Morrie Pongratz; Second: Michelangelo Lobato.

#### **4. Reports from Agencies:**

**YMCA** – Youth Mobilizers Josh Dolin, Ann Pabian, and Myles Gurule, and Katarina Juarez reported on (1) a Drug Use Survey (2) a Library Long Range Plan Teen Survey, (3) Topper Talk, (4) The Senior Sidekicks program, (5) Time with a Topper Program and (6) A Teen Center Survey.

Drug Use Survey – Exploring Teen Drug Use at LAHS Using Peer Interviews by Youth Mobilizers: Emily Weeks, Katarina Juarez, Joshua Dolin and Myles Gurule. Twenty questions were asked of students. Example of Findings:

Question 1. What drugs have you yourself tried or used? 46 out of the 50 responses-- Alcohol and marijuana, were by far the most common at 80 and 90%, while tobacco had 54% use. Hallucinogens and prescription drugs were surprisingly high at 24 and 28% respectively. To access this report, please contact JJAB Coordinator at [Deb4JJAB@aol.com](mailto:Deb4JJAB@aol.com).

Library Long Range Plan Teen Survey – Los Alamos County Library Manager, Charlie Kalogeros requested Youth Mobilizer (YM) assistance with this survey. YM distributed 400 surveys: 300 at the high school and 100 at the mid school; received 300 back (75% return rate). The survey results indicated: Teens want a place to eat and study; less rules; welcoming atmosphere and more wi-fi and technology. A paper copy of the survey is available, contact JJAB Coordinator.

Topper Talk – Examples of the YM produced newspaper were passed around for board members review. YM thanked sponsors: LANB, LAPD, County Parks and Recreation Division and Lou Santoro.

The Senior Sidekicks Program – All freshman will automatically be involved with this program next fall and 70 juniors have registered for next year.

Time with a Topper Program- This program was developed in response to the drug use

survey results. The Youth Mobilizers talked to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Mountain and students at the middle school are aware of the program.

Teen Center Survey- Through a link on Face Book, 50 results were received in one week regarding six questions concerning whether a need existed for a teen center in Los Alamos County. An Itemized "response text" report was presented to the Board. YM did not have time to assemble pie charts. To access the report, contact [Deb4JJAB@aol.com](mailto:Deb4JJAB@aol.com).

The Youth Mobilizers received applause for their presentations.

Diane Martinez reported that Senior Appreciation Night (SAN) needs volunteers. Please call the YMCA at 662-3100.

The Youth Conservation Corp is improving relationships between kids in the Valley and Los Alamos. Jenn Bartram reported on the Third Annual JUNTOS Youth Summit scheduled for July 24 – 25. Adult volunteers are needed for the Summit.

**Los Alamos Family Council** – Cheryl Pongratz reported the 6 – 7 Transition Program will be offered this summer. Sixteen girls in probation will be participating in the Santa Fe Mountain Center ropes course, hiking, white water rafting, adventure program funded through a CYFD contract that the JPO arranged. Each adventure is a \$700 - \$800 value. LAFC attempted to contact 19 girls but only reached 16. Jenn Bartram will accompany the girls. Only girls involved with probation are eligible for this "outstanding" program. Cheryl also reported that TUPAC funding was cut \$13,000. Michelangelo reported the Life Skills program is going well and kids are bringing their friends. Regarding the truancy program: Marsha has moved onto the Peace Corp and LAFC is looking for someone to replace her. Rex and Donna, Assistant Principal and Principal at the Middle School, are ironing out truancy issues. Cheryl comments, "Truancy is the 'Gateway Drug' setting up kids for failure. Michaelangelo also mentioned the Crisis Intervention Training he is offering—space is limited -- Contact LAFC for more information 662-4160. Cheryl expressed concern over the loss of the LAPS Prevention Specialist Position. She believes the cut will impact the diversion programs. We need to figure out how to structure the impact of the lost position on the programs we had in place.

**LACDC** – Bernadette has met with Dr. Schmidt to discuss plans for the 2010-2011 school year. The district plans to implement Assets in every aspect of the district next year. Plans were to include an Assets speaker, Nathan Eklund, for the Back to School for staff day. The mission of Nathan's work is to make schools more fulfilling places to work, where educators are dedicated to the success and health of their colleagues, their students and themselves; he builds Assets in the school staff.

**Other** – Sharon Stover reported County Council will fund the Community Health Council (CHC) until the Community Needs Assessment is completed in the Fall. Sharon and Cheryl updated the Continuum in April. It will be on the web site for people to review and provide changes to JJAB coordinator.

Chief Wayne Torpy reported that County Council approved a motion to fund a Youth Prevention Officer.

Sharon participated in the New Mexico Town Hall where representatives from four districts brainstormed new ideas to empower kids. A report of the Town Hall will be published soon.

The JJAB budget will be submitted for the Board at the June JJAB meeting.

**Family Strengths Network** – Jenn Bartram reported that Girls Circle will be presented to Middle School and High School students with an expanded Girls Circle Curriculum.

**5. Teen Multi-Purpose Facility Initiative** – Chair Kirk introduced the JJAB initiative with an assurance that the Initiative will demand patience and community support. Indicating that it

will not be a quick process to build a Facility, Alan reported that he met at 5:30 pm today at a Phase 0 step of the Los Alamos County Capital Improvement Program Committee where he presented the idea of a Teen Multi-purpose Facility. Alan commented, "Working together, we will bring this initiative forward and hopefully get it approved. Kids need and deserve more with a Facility open seven days a week. The kids should create the programming. Anne Laurent will be the JJAB/County Liaison and I'm confident we can get the CIP application done."

Alan then reviewed the CIP process and application form where project proposals are outlined. The group divided into three committees: (1) Youth, (2) Project Overview and (3) Similar Benchmark Projects. The group paused for a few minutes to gather some snacks and then returned to their different committee tables.

All the committees were handed a folder with directions and tasks.

Committees:

The Project Overview Committee – Bernadette Lauritzen, Megan Pfeffer, Molly Niday and Art Brown did not choose a chair, but did submit a written report.

The Youth Committee to be Chaired by Linda Daly, but coordinated this evening by Diana Martinez, has 12 members.

The Benchmark Project Committee: Chaired by Linda Anderman and Jim Nesmith has 7 members.

Committees met for about 30 minutes to get organized.

JJAB Coordinator will send electronic copy of each committees' tasks with the tentative time line. The final reports from the committees are due July 21, 2010.

**Adjourn** – Chair Kirk adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Submitted by Debbie Gill