

JJAB Minutes

Wednesday, May 18, 2011
Camino Entrada, Pajarito Cliffs Site
Building 1
Los Alamos, NM
6:15 PM

Board Members Present: Alan Kirk, Morrie Pongratz, Randy Smith, Michelangelo Lobato, Janine Tulenko, Mike Wismer, Rex Kilburn, Randy Smith, David Foster

Others: Sharon Marinuzzi, Kristine Coblentz, Jenn Bartram, Bernadette Lauritzen, Cheryl Pongratz, Jane Johnson, Debbie Gill, Sharon Stover, Dick Lindahl, Rich DeMella, Kristy Ortega, Susan Mack, Juan Marcos Guerin, Fran Berting, Lori Heimdahl Gibson, Peggy Pendergast, Steve Koch, Minesh Bacrania

- 1. Welcome** – Chair Alan Kirk welcomed and thanked everyone for attending at 6:18 PM.
- 2. Introductions** – Introductions were made by members and visitors.
- 3. Approval of Minutes** –Janine Tulenko motioned to approve the March and April Meeting Minutes; Michelangelo Lobato seconded. Unanimous approval.

4. Tribute to Jeannette Wallace- Alan introduced the Tribute with an explanation that participants at the April 13 Continuum Alliance meeting unanimously voted to collect donations for the Jeannette Wallace Memorial Scholarship Fund. Coordinator Kristine Coblentz helped coordinate this effort. Everyone at the Alliance meeting was, according to Kristine, “well aware that Representative Wallace was the continuum's legislative champion for years.” In honor of her legislative work for the at-risk youth of NM, the continuums made contributions. Individual and JJAB donations were collected over several weeks.

Sharon Stover, Los Alamos County Council Chair and one of the original founders of the Los Alamos JJAB, acknowledged that the Continuum Coordinators “getting together to acknowledge Jeannette's service is great. Jeannette's heart was always with her kids, with the well being of kids.” Sharon reviewed some of Jeannette's supportive history of JJAB development.

Dick Lindahl, representative of the state Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, reviewed Jeannette's involvement in support of youth in the Legislature. Jeannette was a “real trooper, well respected by both sides of the aisle and a joy to work with. She will be sorely missed. She set a real example for other JJABs in the state by volunteering on the Los Alamos JJAB.”

Rich DeMella, Juvenile Justice Planner of the city of Santa Fe, added, “They don't make them like this anymore. Representative Wallace was a true public servant. She worked long hours for her community, and for communities around the state. She was at the table from the beginning of the youth prevention movement. She was a true public servant and a 'trooper' . She was a breath of fresh air.”

Alan presented the donations to Fran Berting, President and Kristy Ortega, Vice President of the Los Alamos Kiwanis Club. The Club collects money for the Fund. Fran thanked everyone. Morrie Pongratz took photos. A press release will be sent to the Monitor documenting the presentation.

It was reported that Keanna Cohen was the recipient of the Jeannette Wallace Memorial Scholarship this year. The intent of the Kiwanis Club is to keep the Fund going.

5. Rich DeMella, Juvenile Justice Planner of the city of Santa Fe, described work in Santa Fe to coordinate activities and programs to benefit kids. He helps implement programs in the middle school and he is trying to implement programs in the elementary schools. Education is the key to prevention with kids. Rich asked, “Do you want a tax taker or a tax payer?” Prevention programs help kids grow into tax payers. Rich reported on a new tutoring program at Capital High School; that gender specific programs are working; and how he is impressed with the Los Alamos 501(c)3 status and that the Santa Fe JJAB needs to know about 501(c)3 development. The Santa Fe JJAB is doing well. He does bump into the Governor three times a week at the coffee shop. In his opinion, substance abuse and mental illness are the two main sources of juvenile problems. We can “stop crime with licensed therapists” in every elementary school. He stressed that we need to continue collaboration, “get people involved and advocate for good mental health”. He invited all to attend the Santa Fe JJAB meetings at the CYFD office on the third Wednesday of each month from 3:00 – 5:00 PM.

6. Reports from Agencies and Programs

Family Strengths Network – Susan Mack reported that things are “winding down”.

LACDC/Chamber of Commerce – Bernadette Lauritzen reported that Cookies and Conversation at LAMS had kids preparing brunch for the seniors. Assets is working on planning and scheduling summer events. Assets and JJAB will sponsor small fractal art pieces at each elementary school. July 20 is the Minute to Win It Fundraiser for the entire community in the Gym. The Inter-generational Prom is planned for July 15 at the Betty Ehart Senior Center. August will once again be Assets Month. Bernadette also reminded the Board about the Next Big Idea event. To gather information check out the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce web site.

YMCA - Michelangelo reported that all is going well at the Teen Center. He introduced Juan Marcos Guerin, a Teen Center Staff member. Michel plans to introduce all the Teen Center staff to JJAB. He also handed out a Teen Center Calendar of Events. Information can be gathered at www.facebook.com/latecenter and (505) 500-8073. An All Summer Long Zine Making Workshop is being promoted. Contact Amandajspeer@gmail.com for information..

Los Alamos Family Council – As of July 1, Family Council will most likely downsize to ½ size of what it has been. Decisions regarding LAFC future will be made in the first week of June. If LAFC stays open, it will continue with JJAB programs, the Youth Activity Center and low income clients. It is a “grim picture”. By July 1, people will be losing jobs. Cheryl reported that 5 years ago, 85% of LAFC clients were Mental Health and 15% were Substance Abuse clients. Now it's about 50/50. Five years ago, of the substance abuse clients, 85% were alcohol now it's more like 65% drugs. Staff is seeing multi drug use or one drug with marijuana, meth, cocaine, and opiates as the drugs abused in that order. LAFC is seeing many multi-drug plus alcohol abuse.

7. Board Areas of Interest – Alan reviewed two changes in the Board Policies: (1) the Legal Compliance 1.0 portion including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and (2) 3.0 Cultural Competency (see new language on JJAB website in the updated policy

document). Randy Smith motioned to accept the changes, Michelangelo seconded. Unanimous vote.

The 2011-1791 County of Los Alamos RFP is out. Staff is working on the proposal with Davis Innovations. An additional proposal is being developed for \$100,000 for a prevention specialist.

-Ideas/concerns/suggestions need to be thought about for the Fall Retreat.

-JJAB is supporting a Video Board at the Teen Center.

-Thelma Hahn of the Board OF Ed District 1 has resigned. A volunteer is needed to serve on the Board from the Pinion District.

8. Next Meeting Date: June 15, 2011, Building 1, Camino Entrada, Pajarito Cliffs, Los Alamos, 6:15 PM

9. Adjourn – Chair Kirk adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM..

Alan Kirk, Chair JJAB

Date_____