

JJAG Minutes 7/15/2022

Members Present: Jill Ward (Chair), Ned Chester (Vice Chair), Bishop Steve Coleman, Christopher Northrop, Lt Patrick Hood (DPS), Todd Landry (OCFS), Atlee Reilly, Bonnie Porta, Judge Mary Kelly, Christine Thibeault (DOC), Debra Baeder.

Members Absent: Page Nichols (DOE), Jonathan Shapiro (DOE), Sienna Dana, Abier Ibrahim, Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Regina Phillips, Tessa Mosher, Tracy Horton.

JJAG Staff Present: Linda Barry Potter (JJ Specialist and Compliance Monitor)

DOC Staff Present: Heidi L. Strassberg-Bersani, B.L.A (Juvenile Division Support Specialist), Steve Labonte (RCA Region 3).

Public Attendees: Sarah Branch, Patricia Buck, Tanya Pierson, Bruce King, Chris Bicknell, Nick Kidwell, Betsy Boardman, Rob Susi, Mary Lou Michael, Melissa Martin, Jeff Upton, Leigh-Ashley Pettengill, Luc Nya.

Call to Order: 9:02am (via zoom)

June Meeting Minutes: : Approval of the 6/17/22 Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve by Todd Landry; 2nd Deb Baeder. **Adopted by unanimous vote.**

JJ Specialist Report (*Linda Barry Potter*):

Budget – Updating budget spreadsheet to include anticipated FY21 and FY22 awards expected in late August/September. Top half reflects the balance in each fiscal year's account and below are the related grantees.

Title II Solicitation – FY21 and FY22 applications are in process. Grants will be larger than in the past. \$600K for each fiscal year.

Compliance Monitoring – Updated Compliance Monitor Manual was accepted on 06/13/2022. Feedback was received JJAG has 6-10 business days after July 18 to revise.

School Safety Summit – Overall comments was excellent, most professionally run summit than prior years. Over 300 attended in total (online and in person). Survey responses will be discussed at the next meeting. 18 break-out sessions; one of the best received sessions was on Youth Mattering. Request for more training from those that presented. More time to go in depth. Food was great. Planning for next year has begun.

CJJ RED Conference – November 1-2 in Louisville, KY. Please let Linda know if interested in attending.

Website – Proposal to hire a young man to take photos for the website and request for up to \$2500 for this from the job training line for FY20. 80% time will be spent on beefing up our social media and 20% refreshing photos and images for social media and new JJAG website. Motion to approve by Bishop Coleman with clarification about division of time and commitment that Executive Committee will write up a description; 2nd Chris Northrop. **Adopted by unanimous vote.**

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Agency Presentations:

DHHS/OCFS (Todd Landry): See attached Children's Cabinet presentation. Chair made the request to have agencies present on their proposed budgets at October meeting.

DOE (Rob Susi): No updates other than School Summit. School Safety Department participated in the SRO Certification at the academy the week after the Summit.

DOC (Christine Thibeault) No Updates

DPS (Lt Patrick Hood): No updates.

Judicial Branch (Judge Kelly): Judge Kelly outlined three areas, based on what she sees in court, where we (our systems) are failing youth: mental health, education and handling of immigrant youth. Discussion about lack of mental health facilities and treatments; youth being sent out of state; need for small forensic psychiatric unit, but also must resource less restrictive, community-based alternatives. Lack of supports for immigrant youth to help them and their families navigate the system. Recent DOJ investigation re: problems with Maine's children's behavioral health system was referenced: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/press-release/file/1514326/download>

It was noted that we have a roadmap for solutions after the Task Force work and related system assessment (<https://www.mainejjtaskforce.org/>). Need to use that as a guide for solutions and investment. Build on the steps we have taken. Look to department and community members to come together to forge solutions. JJAG could educate new legislators regarding the report, the recommendations, and the need for funding. October meeting will include review of recommendations and related progress.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee (Jill Ward): Website is live, final revisions should be done by the end of the month (www.jjagmaine.com). Five replacement appointments were sent to the governor's office. Expect them to be considered by the end of the summer. Committee meetings are the 2nd Monday of the month at 4:30pm.

RED/DMC Committee (Chris Northrop): Training with Dr. Carter needs to be longer, all members agreed. If a virtual option is going to be available, it needs to make sure virtual attendees can see and hear the video. Next JJAG Board training will be September 16 and members should plan on 4 hours of training plus a short business meeting. Third training will also be longer and is set for December 16. YOC data snapshot needs to be improved; Anwar will present at Sept meeting. Last comprehensive data report on RE/D was 2015; time to do that again. Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 4:30pm.

Governance Committee (Ned Chester): Nomination Policy is coming together, should have it in September. Actively looking for youth members and a local school board member. Suggestions for psychologist (replace Debra Baeder who is retiring) to be board member are welcomed. Governance will also be finalizing the Paul Vestal Award. Meeting the second Monday of the month at 4pm.

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Systems Improvement Committee (Jill Ward): Next funding priority will be resourcing local ,grassroots community-based groups working with BIPOC youth, with preference that the groups also be BIPOC-led. Looking at a lower barrier RFA process and/or bidders conference. Will be most critical to get the word out to eligible groups once we have the narrative done. The total amount allocated to this objective will be 100K with the opportunity to fund multiple groups at a 25K or 10K level. Hope to have this ready to share by September meeting. Committee meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 4pm.

Legislative Committee (Atlee Reilly): Planning meeting September 8 at noon. Let Atlee know if you would like to attend.

Next Meetings: Regular meetings are the 3rd Friday of the month. Next meeting is September 16, 2022. In addition to the meeting will be the training with Dr. Carter. 9-3pm, in Portland ME, location TBA.

Adjourned: 10:45AM