

JJAG Minutes 4/21/2023

Members Present: Jill Ward (Vice Chair), Renee Bernard, Morgan Hynd, Lt Patrick Hood (DPS), Chris Northrop, Regina Phillips, Christine Thibeault (DOC), Jonathan Shapiro, Chris Bicknell, Tanya Pierson, Kelly Rackler, Tessa Mosher, Jay Philbrick, Elizabeth Ward Saxl (Melissa Martin attended)

Members Absent: Ned Chester (Chair), Page Nichols (DOE), Todd Landry (DHHS), Judge Sarah Churchill, Bishop Steven Coleman, Bonnie Porta, Atlee Reilly, Jacinda Goodwin, Brody Haverly-Johndro, LaMichael Gildersleeve, Sienna Dana, Abier Ibrahim, Zubeyda Shute, Ladi Nzeyimana, Megan Anderson

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

DOC Staff Present: Sonja Morse (Manager of Juvenile Evidence-Based Programs); Steve Labonte (RCA, Region 3)

Public Attendees: Fenton Jones, Alice Preble, Luc Nya, Betsy Boardman, Bruce King, Mary Lou Michael, Nick Kidwell, Doran White, Allie Smith

Call to Order: 9:08am (via zoom)

Welcome & Introductions (Jill)

March Meeting Minutes: Approval of the 3/17/23 Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve by Jonathan Shapiro; Kelly Rackler seconded. **Adopted 12-0 with one abstention.**

JJ Specialist Report (Linda Barry Potter):

Budget – FY 22 budget has been submitted. Change from last budget – we were awarded extra money not counted with initial award. Additional amount was added to the positive youth development (PYD) line taking that allocation from \$113k - \$116k; all else remained the same. There is still \$30k to work with on SAG line to pay Coalition for Juvenile Justice dues and travel to conferences. (see spreadsheet for additional detail).

CJJ Conference – May 24-26 in Washington, DC – Six folks confirmed (Linda, Anwar, Renee, Tanya, Kelly and 2 youth members). Delegation will attend conference and Hill Day to visit with Maine's Congressional delegation; meetings are being set with all members except Senator King where we will try to get a meeting with staff. Linda assembling information for those meetings, including the Maine JJAG description and member list fact sheets. These will go with materials from CJJ about requests SAGs are making of Congress. Youth members will also be connected to youth members from other states.

CJJ Youth Conference – July30-August 1 in Tacoma, Washington – Work on sending a delegation of youth members if interested.

CJJ/Annie E Casey Foundation Probation Reform Training – June 21 in Baltimore, MD – Team to attend (Linda, Christine, Jill, Tanya, Tara Chiasson, Joe Hansen) – Christine to solicit input (questions & ideas) from staff prior to the training. If there are extra slots, Linda will let those folks know who were also interested in attending.

JJAG Minutes 4/21/2023

RFA & Grant Updates – Latest RFA is at the Procurement Office; some language questions to resolve, but should be able to move forward in a week or so. Need to be ready to post and distribute as soon as it's posted.

Compliance Monitoring (CM) – Linda gave an update of the CM plan for the summer and fall. Required monitoring was largely completed over the last two years and now monitoring involves spot checks of police departments to confirm compliance and educate folks about the law. These checks will be done in the middle of the state in June and July, and the northern part of the state in August. Also, trainings in May for southern police departments who hire adjunct officers during the summer.

Presentation – Fenton Jones gave an update on behalf of the 11 youth who attended the OJJDP State Training and Tribal Youth Conferences in San Diego (December 13-15) and shared a video of the experience created by the youth. Thanks to JJAG for the opportunity and especially to Linda for her support and excellent coordination of the delegation. It was a memorable experience and very much appreciated.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee (Ned Chester & Jill Ward): Appeal to the Board for volunteers to help with communications activities (website posting, flyers, social media, etc). Please email Jill or Linda if you are interested in helping out. Reminder that we will begin the 3-year plan planning process this fall and will use the time with Dr. Carter to help us apply some of the DEI principles we are learning to that strategic planning process. USDOJ announcement on fines & fees was shared (see: [Justice Department Issues Dear Colleague Letter to Courts Regarding Fines and Fees for Youth and Adults](#)). Tanya noted that any adult offense that has a mandatory fine that is a juvenile offense under the juvenile code does NOT have a mandatory fine for the juvenile. There are exceptions including offenses under motor vehicle code and Title 12 in which a person under 18 is charged in adult court with the offense & those mandatory minimum fines do apply. Christine shared that DOC does not charge any fees for juveniles for supervision and LD 39 from this session includes language that would prohibit courts from posting supervision fees for juvenile deferred disposition. Generally, Maine is doing a good job on this compared to other jurisdictions.

RED/DMC Committee (Regina Phillips & Chris Northrop): Board members received and email with the DEI training schedule for the rest of the year. It is also posted below:

- May 19, 2023 from 11:30 – 1 PM (90 min. virtual training)
- June 16, 2023 from 11:30 AM -3:30 PM (4 hour in-person training)
- July 21, 2021 from 11:30 – 1 PM (90 min virtual training)
- September 15, 2023 from 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM (4 hour in-person training)
- October 20, 2023 from 11:30 AM – 1 PM (90 min virtual training)
- November 17, 2023 from 11:30 AM – 3:30 PM (4 hour in-person training)

Mindbridge update re: training of JCCOs /Long Creek staff – there was a very productive follow-up meeting about the training and related survey. Working to increase the survey response rate by extending the time to complete and ensuring all staff got the survey. The Committee is interested in continuing to get resources into the communities that need them and possibly reissuing the RFA for BIPOC youth. This can be a discussion with the Systems Improvement Committee. Also, the Committee

JJAG Minutes 4/21/2023

would like to get the word out to communities about the smaller under 5K grants that are available. Discussion about developing a flyer that can be used for this purpose.

Systems Improvement Committee (Jill Ward & Luc Nya): No updates, but an invitation to all Board members and others to attend the Committee meeting on May 10 at 4pm to discuss the next funding priority/RFA.

Legislative Committee (Atlee Reilly & Elizabeth Ward Saxl): LD 433, Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Corrections and the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to Establish a Working Group on the Relocation of the Division of Juvenile Services is scheduled for a hearing on Monday, April 24 at 9am. This is one of the two bills the JJAG agreed to offer NFNA testimony to provide the Committee with information. Atlee is preparing that testimony. LD 148, the other bill the JJAG has weighed in on was tabled and is being discussed in conjunction with LD 155, Rep. Brennan's bill on community-based alternatives. Chairs of the CJPS Committee are convening conversations about how to move forward. There are more than 2000 bills introduced and things are moving very fast – not much notice and lots of bills being heard. No idea when Committees will start carrying over bills to the next session. Tracker with links to bills and updates on where they are in process can be found here: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bB7k84zAlptUlXq11oahk9MOOsKy2No5F0zR3r-6Xlk/edit#gid=0>See.

Governance Committee (Ned Chester & Bonnie Porta): No updates. Currently working on policies and a process for identifying and nominating folks for the remaining open seats on the JJAG.

Youth Council (Jay Philbrick): Youth Council is meeting every other Saturday at 1pm, although that time may not be working as well as they thought. Will look to see if other times might make attendance better.

Agency Updates

DOC (Christine Thibeault): DOC is continuing to have negotiations with Goodwill Hinckley about a smaller more therapeutic secure placement for committed youth. The process is moving forward but will take a while as the building needs some improvements. Also working to get youth back into Unity Place in May; Day One has hired new program manager. Population in Long Creek is 25 (9 committed youth/16 detained) and there will be one less committed youth tomorrow when that young person is released.

Next meeting is May 19 at 9am via zoom.

Adjourned: 10:22 AM