

**SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 18, 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

William Alford  
Elizabeth Bartz  
Angela Tucker Cooper  
Connie Hesske  
Connie Humble  
Delores Jones  
Sarah Kisner  
Connie Krauss  
Vivian Celeste Neal  
Gene Nixon  
Robert Pfaff  
Reverend Sandra Selby  
Karen Talbott  
Jean Van Ness

**DJFS STAFF:**

Patricia Divoky  
Julie Seeley

**GUESTS:**

Rich Marountas  
Donna Skoda  
Mary Kay Quinn  
Terrie Stout

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:**

Tom Armstrong  
May Chen  
Jeffrey Heintz  
Bob Kulinski  
Jim Lawrence  
Dr. Carl Simmers  
Bernett Williams  
Cheryl Urban  
Michael Wise  
Elaine Woloshyn  
Randy Zumbar

**CALL TO ORDER**

Karen Talbott called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. as a quorum of members was present. Julie Seeley introduced Terrie Stout, a Master's in Social Work intern who has been working with Julie on the Summit 2010 Project.

## **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 19TH, 2005 SSAB BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The minutes were unanimously approved by Board members.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Karen reported that the Executive Committee has met twice since the last Board meeting, once on December 8<sup>th</sup>, and again on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of both meetings was to plan for the SSAB Retreat to be held on February 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Jewish Community Center. The Executive Committee formulated an agenda and also met to discuss selection of a facilitator. The Board was given a preliminary copy of the Retreat agenda as well as copies of the Code of Regulations and legislation regarding the formation of SSAB. Karen asked the Board to review these items prior to the Retreat. The preliminary agenda items which included the possibility of an expanded role for SSAB and whether the Board should become a commission or remain in an advisory role were discussed. David Nott from the Executive's legal department will be available at the Retreat to respond to questions.

#### **B. BUDGET & LEVY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Elizabeth Bartz stated that the Committee needs a Co-Chair and that Jean Van Ness has agreed to assume this role with the Boards' approval. A motion to approve Jean as the Co-Chair was made and the motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth reported that as a follow-up to the levy agency annual budget review meetings held in October, the Budget & Levy Review Committee will need to meet with MR/DD by March 1st to discuss its health insurance plan as it relates to their annual budget. Elizabeth stated that the Committee has streamlined the budget requests and is now working to ensure that there is a consistent budget reporting method used by each of the levy agencies. Elizabeth stated that the Budget & Levy Review Committee has asked CSB to be on the ballot in 2006 so as to allow ADM the same number of potential opportunities to be on the ballot as CSB and MR/DD. Elizabeth stated that she and Jean will be contacting Connie Humble at CSB.

Mary Kay Quinn, a reporter from the Akron Beacon Journal, arrived to observe the Board meeting and the Board members introduced themselves to her.

#### **C. HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

## **FINANCE FORUM**

Bob stated that the Health & Human Services Committee met on January 12<sup>th</sup>, and Bob deferred to Donna Skoda and Rich Marountas to give an update on the Summit 2010 Project. Donna reported that the Finance Forum group is being reconstituted, with the addition of selected members. The group will act in an advisory capacity. Delores Jones added that she and Tom Harnden, Co-Chairs of the Finance Forum, will be gathering information on private funding sources to gain a comprehensive picture of the funding of Summit 2010 initiatives from all sources.

## **WEB SITES**

Rich Marountas discussed a number of communication and information sharing tools being utilized in the Summit 2010 Project. Rich distributed to Board members the Summit 2010 newsletter, which has been sent to all who have been involved in various aspects with the Summit 2010 Project and which will be added to the Web site. In addition, Rich distributed information on two distinct Web sites; the SSAB Web site which is now active, and the Summit 2010: A Quality of Life Web site, both accessed via the Healthy Summit Web site. A Summit 2010 event calendar is also available listing all meetings related to the Project, as well as an archive of Summit 2010 Committee meeting minutes.

Bob stated the Health & Human Services Committee will continue to meet on a monthly basis, on the second Thursday of each month. (Due to a conflict with the Mayor's State of the City address, there will be no meeting in February).

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Legislation was passed for reappointment of Jim Lawrence, Karen Talbott, Bernett Williams, Angela Tucker Cooper, and Tom Armstrong to the Board and for Sarah Kisner as a new Board member.

### **DISCLOSURE FORMS**

Karen reminded Board members of the need to complete Disclosure Forms within 30 days of appointment, and by January 31<sup>st</sup> every year after that.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Bob Kulinski stated that he has been meeting with Elaine Woloshyn, Jody Bacon, and Judy Reed regarding the changing funding climate for non-profits. A meeting will be held for non-profit organizations on January 24<sup>th</sup> at the Red Cross at 7:30 a.m., entitled "A Wake-up Call". The meeting will consist of a discussion regarding some of the funding trends and a dialog regarding community needs, with break-out groups for brainstorming of ideas on addressing the decrease in available funding. SSAB Board members were invited to attend this meeting.

Pat Divoky stated that Job & Family Services reviews WIA and PRC proposals for funding, and has incorporated requesting how the proposals relate to the Summit 2010 goals. Pat asked if there was an interest by members of the SSAB in being part of the final proposal review process. Currently, the Department is reviewing PRC proposals and a final review will be held in mid-February. Reviews are held approximately twice a year. Delores Jones volunteered herself and Tom Harnden (Co-Chairs of the Finance Forum). Bill Alford also volunteered to be part of the review process. It is understood that if an organization is being considered for or receives funding, a person representing that organization would not be allowed to be part of the proposal review. Julie will send an e-mail out for other Board members who are not present to have the opportunity to volunteer to review proposals.

Sarah Kisner announced that the Department of Job & Family Services has applied for a grant and is waiting to hear from the State by the end of January. In addition, Sarah stated there is \$10 million dollars the state earmarked for non-profit organizations, \$11 million of funding from the state for faith-based programs and \$14 million for education. The Department sent an e-mail to all of their contracting agencies alerting them of these various funding opportunities.

Sarah also announced that she is part of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators and the organization is having its annual conference in April. An application was submitted to present the Summit 2010 Project to the Forum and it has been selected.

## **OTHER**

The next SSAB Board meeting will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006. A schedule of all 2006 Board meetings was distributed to Board members.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.