

**SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
April 27, 2005**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thomas Armstrong
Elizabeth Bartz
May Chen
Connie Hesske
Connie Humble
Delores Jones
Connie Krauss
Bob Kulinski
Gene Nixon
Robert Pfaff
Reverend Sandra Selby
Karen Talbott
Jean Van Ness
Cheryl Urban
Bernett Williams
Michael Wise
Elaine Woloshyn
Randy Zumbar

DJFS STAFF:

Patricia Divoky
Sarah Kisner
Julie Seeley

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

William Alford
Angela Tucker Cooper
Jeffrey Heintz
James Lawrence
Vivian Celeste Neal
Dr. Carl Simmers

1. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME OF NEW MEMBERS

Karen Talbott called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. and welcomed the new Board members who had attended an orientation meeting earlier today. Introductions of all Board members were made. Karen announced a quorum of members was present.

2. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 19, 2005 SSAB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The January 19th, 2005 Board minutes were approved as written.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

UPDATE ON CONSULTANT FOR SUMMIT 2010

Karen Talbott detailed the process utilized and the rationale proposed for the recommended consultant to the SSAB. The fee for the consultant will be paid by the three levy funded agencies and the Department of Job & Family Services. Gene Nixon has provided a letter listing the Summit County Board of Health's in-kind contribution to the Summit 2010 Project as requested.

On March 1st, the Executive Committee met to discuss questions related to the Center for Community Solutions proposal. The Committee also discussed the addition of new SSAB Board members and plans for an orientation meeting for the new Board members.

On March 17th, the Executive Committee met to further discuss the Summit 2010 Project consultant proposals.

Karen stated that Bob Pfaff represented the SSAB in answering questions on the consultant proposal at the Board of Control meeting today. Legislation for the proposal (Center for Community Solutions) will be introduced to Council on May 9th, presented at Council Committee meeting on May 16th, and brought back to Council for possible final approval on May 23rd. Karen invited Board members to attend these Council meetings.

2) BUDGET & LEVY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Bartz stated that currently the Budget & Levy Review Committee is reviewing the levy request for the Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. The Committee met with Tom Armstrong and his staff last week. The Committee is asking Tom to respond to some additional questions which will be followed by another Committee meeting. A special SSAB Board meeting will need to be scheduled to vote on a recommendation from the Board on the levy issue. MR/DD hopes to put the levy proposal on the ballot in November 2005.

3) HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Bernett Williams shared that the planning teams for Summit 2010 will convene as soon as the consultant is officially retained.

FINANCE FORUM UPDATE

Bob Kulinski reported that two new individuals have assumed Co-Chair positions for the Finance Forum, Delores Jones, of First Energy, and Tom Harnden, of the Barberton Community Foundation. The Finance Forum has provided an information sharing platform to this point and now will be focused on community impact and program collaboration.

The next Systems, Management & Oversight meeting, of which the Finance Forum is an element, will be meeting on May 11th and Board members were invited to come to that meeting if they wished. Bob Kulinski, Elaine Woloshyn, and Karen Talbott will meet with Mr. McCarthy on May 9th regarding the data sharing initiative, also, a goal under the auspices of the Systems, Management & Oversight Committee.

4) HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES FORUM UPDATE

Connie Humble reported that the 2005 Human Services Forum is tentatively scheduled to be held on September 8th at the University of Akron. Senator Barack Obama is the first choice for a speaker for that event. The Committee will be meeting on April 29th. The plan is for four break-out sessions to be held in the morning, with the keynote speaker at noon. Corporations will be approached for sponsorship.

B. OTHER

No other items

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

A listing of Committee assignments was distributed, and the assignments were unanimously approved by the Board after moving Cheryl Urban to the Health & Human Services Committee and Jean Van Ness to the Budget & Levy Review Committee upon request.

B. SSAB BOARD RETREAT

Karen stated that a Board retreat to discuss a possible expanded role of the SSAB would be held possibly in mid-July.

5. OTHER

A. REGIONAL CONCEPT

Karen reported that she participated in a program at Lorain Community College entitled, “Doing well while doing good” in regards to the role of health & human services in regionalism. A framing document was created and will be available on the Web site of the Center for Family and Children in Cleveland. In the meantime, Julie will have copies made of the document and send to all Board members. Karen reported that there appears to be great interest in Summit 2010 in Northeast Ohio.

B. YOUNGSTOWN INTEREST

Karen also reported that Channel 33 in Youngstown is reporting on the Charter form of government in Summit County and is interested in the SSAB. Karen will be interviewed on April 29th by Channel 33. Karen felt that the Beacon Journal’s Editorial Board, that remains interested in Summit 2010, should be updated again when the consultant is officially engaged.

C. DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Karen stated that new members must turn in their disclosure statements within 30 days of appointment to the Board per the Code of Regulations.

It was suggested that County Council’s 2020 plan be reviewed so that collaboration between that plan and Summit 2010 can be established.

Randy Zumbar stated that ADM is very involved in the budget process at the State and Federal levels. Randy expressed concern regarding elimination of the disability assistance program which provides prescription coverage to the poorest individuals, many of whom are affected by mental illness.

Bob Pfaff reported that \$2 million has been cut from the Metro funding at the Federal level.

Sarah Kisner welcomed the new SSAB members to the Board.

6. NEXT SSAB BOARD MEETING

The next regular SSAB meeting is scheduled for July 20th, at noon, at the Summit County Department of Job & Family Services.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.