

**SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
May 17th, 2006**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Alford
Tom Armstrong
Elizabeth Bartz
Connie Humble
Delores Jones
Reverend Sandra Selby
Sarah Kisner
Connie Krauss
Jim Lawrence
Jean Van Ness
Gene Nixon
Karen Talbott
Elaine Woloshyn
Randy Zumbar

DJFS STAFF:

Patricia Divoky
Julie Seeley

GUESTS:

Donna Skoda, Summit County
Health Department
Rich Marountas, Center for
Community Solutions
Brian Nelson, Deputy Director
of Finance, Summit County
Executive's Office

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

May Chen
Angela Tucker Cooper
Connie Hesske
Jeffrey Heintz
Bob Kulinski
Vivian Celeste Neal
Bob Pfaff
Dr. Carl Simmers
Cheryl Urban
Bernett Williams
Mike Wise

CALL TO ORDER

Karen Talbott called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. A quorum of members was present.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 19, 2006 SSAB BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the April 19th Board meeting were approved with one change. Jean Van Ness stated that she was not present at the April 19th Board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET & LEVY REVIEW COMMITTEE

SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES LEVY UPDATE

Elizabeth Bartz stated that the Budget & Levy Review Committee had met and is recommending a 2.52 mill replacement with reduction levy proposal from Children Services be placed on the November 2006 ballot by County Council. SSAB members were encouraged to ask questions of Committee members; Connie Humble, Director, Children's Services; Gary Binns, Finance Director; and Bill Alford, Children Services Board member. The Committee's motion was discussed and passed with 2 abstentions (Connie Humble and Bill Alford). Board members suggested that Connie invite Children Services bargaining unit leadership to be present when the levy proposal is presented to Summit County Council. Elizabeth will represent the Social Services Advisory Board when the levy proposal is presented to Council.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

OLDER ADULTS TASK FORCE

Rich Marountas, consultant with the Center for Community Solutions, distributed a draft mission statement and description of an Independent Living Task Force group that is proposed to be convened by the Older Adults Task Force of Summit 2010. The mission of the Independent Living Task Force is to improve the quality of life of older adults in Summit County and include in the Task Force public officials, service providers, seniors etc. The Board approved the direction that the Older Adults Task Force is taking. Members suggested someone representing the financial community be included in the Task Force as financial literacy and preparation for retirement is a critical issue for seniors. Also, Randy Zumbar suggested that an initiative presently addressing mental health issues of seniors also be included to avoid duplication of efforts.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Donna Skoda, a consultant for the Center for Community Solutions, reported that the housing affordability indicator, which originally was to be addressed by the Income, Education & Workforce Committee, will potentially be addressed by a group that is being convened today at Goodwill. Plans are to explore the direction that the group would like to take and establish a leader for the group.

FINANCE FORUM

Delores Jones reported that she and Tom Harnden would be meeting with the Summit 2010 consultants on June 12th to review the progress to date on the report detailing funding sources for health and human services in Summit County and a survey that will be utilized to obtain funding information from the business

community. Delores has also spoken to Jean Van Ness, of the GAR Foundation, as Jean is part of a group of foundations that may be addressing similar issues. Coordination would thus avoid duplication of efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

BOARD TASK FORCE UPDATES

The Health and Human Services Outcomes Task Force met on May 10th and Sandra Selby reviewed recommendations. The Task Force's mission was to evaluate whether the SSAB was accomplishing its purpose as defined in the Code of Regulations. The members felt that the objectives of "evaluating the health and human service needs in Summit County" and "evaluating the health and human services resources/capacity relative to the needs" were being addressed by the Summit 2010 Project. The Task Force members did discuss the definition of SSAB oversight and how this may be implemented in practical terms. A handout of the recommendations was distributed. Karen noted that when all the Retreat task force groups have met and completed their action plan worksheets, that the Executive Committee will convene to review the suggestions and bring final recommendations back to the Board for consideration.

OTHER

Connie Humble announced that Children Services has a new child abuse and neglect hotline number which will be featured on billboards around the community.

Bill Alford commended the consultant team on their work on the SSAB Web site. The SSAB Web site also lists the date of all Board meetings, and County Council members and the public are welcome to attend.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 19th, 2006 at noon at the Summit County Department of Job & Family Services.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.