

**SPECIAL SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
June 1, 2004**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Alford
Thomas Armstrong
Elizabeth Bartz
Wayne Brennessel
Angela Tucker Cooper
Jeff Heintz
Connie Humble
Vivian Celeste Neal
Gene Nixon
Robert Pfaff
Karen Talbott
Elaine Woloslyn
Randy Zumbar

NOT PRESENT:

Kevin Breen
James Lawrence
Dr. Carl Simmers
Bernett Williams

DJFS STAFF:

Valorie Austin
Patricia Divoky

GUESTS:

Gary Binns

STAFF NOT PRESENT

Julie Seeley

CALL TO ORDER:

Karen Talbott called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. A quorum of members was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the April 28, 2004 meeting were approved with one correction of Daisy Alford Smith's retirement on June 16, 2004 and not July 16, 2004.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

Karen Talbott reported the Executive Committee met on April 28, 2004. The purpose of the meeting was to speak with John Begala regarding next steps in the Summit 2010 process. The Committee reviewed final expectations for John and the other consultants (including the Health & Human Services Report) as well as questions regarding the continuation of the Systems Management & Oversight group. Karen noted that some of the planning teams will complete their work and their responsibilities will be transferred

to the agencies that have been identified in the planning process. Several of the planning teams and committees will continue. The Center for Community Solution's contract will be completed on June 30, 2004, but John will be available for consultation as needed. John will present the Health and Human Services Report and next steps in the Summit 2010 process at the July 28, 2004 SSAB Board meeting.

The Executive Committee also met with the County Executive James McCarthy on May 27, 2004 to discuss transitional issues and the establishment of the position of Executive Director to assist the Social Services Advisory Board. Mr. McCarthy has identified the Summit 2010 meetings that he is interested in attending including some of the community forums, a neighborhood meeting, a meeting with the United Way, and a potential meeting with the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones, U.S. Representative, related to informing her of Summit 2010 and the possibility of using the process as a model for future Title XX funding priorities.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Robert Pfaff stated that there are a number of presentations scheduled and Elizabeth Bartz added that the Community Forum meeting dates were published in the Akron Beacon Journal. There has not been good attendance at the meetings thus far. Pat Divoky reported that the Hudson presentation is scheduled for tonight and the Mayor in Hudson has been involved with the preparations for the meeting, so it is hoped there will be a number of people at the presentation.

BUDGET & LEVY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Bartz reported the Budget and Levy Review Committee met May 24, 2004 with Connie Humble, Rita Fongheiser and Gary Binns of Children Services Board. John Stiegel was present at the meeting representing Linda Sowa from the County Budget Office. The proposal from Children Services Board (CSB) was distributed to Committee members. Children Services Board is requesting the same proposal as in the failed March levy, which is a 2.56 renewal levy for a three-year period. The proposal projects the carry forward balance will decrease each year from 2005 to 2010. CSB is planning to request an additional levy for the three-year period of 2008-2010. The Budget & Levy Review Committee reported that it supports the levy proposal, and will add a position paper to their recommendation, explaining the SSAB's role in overseeing health and human services issues and that the levy is fiscally advisable. The levy proposal will provide the same level of funding for Children Services as it currently receives. The three-year levy is an exception to the customary six-year levy period, as the Committee feels that public confidence in CSB needs to build up after the strike and it enhances the Committee's ability to better monitor CSB's carry forward fund balance. When CSB meets with the Committee in the Fall, they will provide two budgets, one if the levy passes and one if it does not pass. Elaine Woloshyn emphasized that there is a need for a discussion of a target fund balance amount for the agencies. The Committees' position statement emphasizes that it is imperative that the levy passes in November, as if it does not, CSB will be forced to request a levy in 2005, when MR/DD could also potentially place a levy on the ballot. The SSAB Board members unanimously approved the motion of the Budget & Levy Review Committee to recommend the Children Services Board 3

year, 2.56 mil renewal levy proposal, to be placed on the November ballot, with three abstentions Bill Alford, Connie Humble, and Elaine Woloshyn.

NEW BUSINESS

Karen congratulated Connie Humble of CSB on her new position as Director of Children Services Board and welcomed her to the SSAB Board.

Connie thanked the SSAB Board for their support and stated that the passage of CSB's levy is her top priority. Connie reported that of the 41 recommendations of the PARC, 36 implementation plans have been completed, 11 are already fully implemented and 5 are long term, but all 36 should be implemented by December of 2004.

Connie will be building relationships with the bargaining unit, but a contract is still not in place. The arbitration was completed March 12th and the arbitrator was given six weeks to respond. 130 bargaining level individuals have asked for de-certification of the union.

OTHER

Elizabeth Bartz reported that she would not be in attendance at the July meeting, but would like telephone conferencing to be available at future meetings. Pat Divoky reported that telephone conferencing was available today and will be available for the July meeting. Six people can call in via the conference call format.

Karen thanked the members of the Board who have volunteered to present the Quality of Life Summit 2010 PowerPoint and also extended her appreciation to Elizabeth Bartz and Elaine Woloslyn for their work on the Budget & Levy Review Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The next Social Services Advisory Board regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 28, 2004, at noon, at the Department of Job & Family Services. Karen adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.