

SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
July 28, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bill Alford
Jeff Heintz
Connie Humble
Bob Kulinski
Gene Nixon
Robert Pfaff
Dr. Carl Simmers
Angela Tucker-Cooper
Karen Talbott

DJFS STAFF:

Valorie Austin
Sarah Kisner
Julie Seeley

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Tom Armstrong
Elizabeth Bartz
Wayne Brennessel
James Lawrence
Vivian Celeste Neal
Bernett Williams
Elaine Woloshyn
Randy Zumbar

GUESTS:

John Begala
Robert Dejournett
Laurie Howard
Rich Marountas
Donna Skoda
Tom Quade
Natalie Trachsel-Blakney
John Woodard

CALL TO ORDER

Karen Talbott called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. and welcomed guests attending the meeting. She introduced Bob Kulinski, President, Summit County United Way, as a new SSAB Board member and Julie Seeley introduced an intern, Natalie Trachsel-Blakney, an employee of Children Services Board, who will be starting an internship at the end of August until December 10th, at the Summit County Department of Job & Family Services.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Bob Pfaff introduced John Begala, from the Center for Community Solutions, to present the Summit 2010 Final Project Report. John distributed copies of the Summit 2010 final report which includes the "Comprehensive Health and Social Service plan", the "Partnerships for Success" final report, and the three "neighborhood strategic plans". John stated that Summit County has a marvelous opportunity, as the plans are a foundation to build and to take health and social services to a new role in the community. John stated the success of the plans depends substantially on the SSAB maintaining the communications already established and focusing on the priority indicators. He stated that the planning document, planning process and collaboration between public and non-profit sectors is as good as possible and felt the project ranked in the top ten against what other communities in the nation are doing. John reported over 250 individuals in Summit

County have had a role in putting these plans together and acknowledged the Center for Community Solutions staff and consultants who had a part in the project. John also acknowledged the work of Julie Seeley and Patricia Divoky, at the Department of Job & Family Services, and the value of their knowledge of the project as it moves forward.

John encouraged the continued connection with the Akron Public Schools and the City of Akron (and their related services such as the Parks and Recreation department as extremely important). He stated that the challenge is making social change happen and the continued focus on that objective. Bob Pfaff acknowledged the work of John Begala and the Center for Community Solutions, as well as the work of Julie Seeley and Pat Divoky.

Karen presented John Begala with a Proclamation from Mr. McCarthy for John's leadership of the team of staff and sub-contractors for the Summit 2010 project.

Bill Alford stated there were a few changes to the Early Childhood action plans that will be distributed to the Board in the near future.

The Board voted unanimously to adopt the Summit 2010 Project report and recommend it to the County Executive.

SUBCOMMITTEE and COMMITTEE UPDATES

SYSTEMS, MANAGEMENT & OVERSIGHT (SMO)

Bob Kulinski reported that plans are moving along on the various action steps of this sub-committee. The next meeting of the Systems, Management and Oversight sub-committee will be August 11th.

Karen reported that there was a meeting of the SMO'S data sharing sub-committee and the committee would like to evaluate the design of a case management/data sharing system. Elaine Woloshyn and Karen met with Jim McCarthy regarding putting a group together with a facilitator to discuss design elements of a system. SSAB has been advised that the County will be releasing an RFI at the end of the week to determine what kind of systems are available for a case management/data sharing type of project.

BUDGET & LEVY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Elizabeth Bartz stated that before September, the Budget & Levy Review Committee would be talking to the three levy funded agencies regarding the annual budget review.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Karen reported that on June 16th, Mr. McCarthy and she met with representatives from United Way regarding a collaborative effort between the goals of United Way and the goals for Summit 2010. On July 22nd, a Summit 2010 presentation was then made to the United Way Portfolio Council group by Karen. Another presentation will be made to the United Way Campaign Cabinet by Bennett Williams. On June 21st, the Executive Committee met and was informed that the expenses of the Human Services Forum

exceeded revenues by \$11,000. There was a discussion on how to help cover those expenditures. In addition, the Executive Committee suggested that in the future the Human Services Forum be spearheaded by a collaborative effort of agencies represented by the Social Services Advisory Board. The Committee is reviewing a Summit 2010 project transition plan, which was provided by John Begala to determine continued resource needs. Also, in terms of priority indicator funding, Karen reported that Mr. McCarthy indicated that there were not additional monies available coming to fund achievement of the goals and priority indicators. The project needs to work with monies that are currently available. However, seed money may be possible for new initiatives via applying for foundation funding.

On July 6th, a meeting was held with Jim McCarthy and the levy funded agencies, Directors and Gene Nixon regarding continued resource funding of the Summit 2010 project. The Department of Job & Family Services (SCDJFS) will be asked to fund half of the Summit 2010 preliminary budget of \$250,000 for the Director and additional staff support. The remainder of the budget will be requested from the levy- funded agencies. The Summit County Health Department will be asked to provide in-kind contribution of staff for the neighborhood and data tracking activities. The hope is that the Director could start in September and may be housed at the SCDJFS or possibly the One-Stop job center. A draft of a position description was also discussed. Julie Seeley will be the point person for SSAB to schedule meetings with Mr. McCarthy. Kevin Breen will be stepping away from the Board at this time, but may be returning in the future. Additional Summit 2010 presentations need to be made, including a presentation to Summit County Council, although some Council members have heard the presentation. Plans are in process to develop goals for the Adult Protective Services sub-committee. Bennett will be discussing this with Vivian Celeste Neal.

The Executive Committee also met on July 15th. Julie has been working on the list of deliverables of the contract with the Center for Community Solutions. There has been a proposal for clarification on the name of the Summit 2010 project. The Committee is checking with Karen Doty regarding public notice of the Board meetings. The Budget & Levy Review Committee is looking for additional members from the Board. Elizabeth and Karen will be attending a meeting of the Greater Akron Chamber on September 10th to give the group some background on the CSB levy proposal. An orientation of new members of the SSAB Board will be held when other members are added to the Board. A letter of support was drafted for the HCAP grant proposal for Healthy Connections, as the Executive Committee felt that was relevant to SSAB (Board affirmed). July 30th will be the next Executive Committee meeting. A draft of the Director job description should be available after Friday's meeting. Questions of the creation and funding of the position by the Board were brought up. Karen stated that the Executive Committee would be asking for consultation from the County's legal department regarding the position and process. John stated that the position and/or staff would require tremendous attention to detail. A special Board meeting will most likely need to be scheduled regarding the Director position for the SSAB once more information is available.

A question was raised regarding branding of the Summit 2010 and some type of graphic design vs. the County seal be developed. Sarah Kisner stated that graphic staff of the SCDJFS would be looking at this issue.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL JUNE 1ST BOARD MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes of the Special SSAB Board meeting held on June 1st was unanimously passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A motion to create a Human Service Forum Committee was unanimously approved by the Board.

Julie requested Children Services Board campaign information from Connie Humble to forward to Board members.

Donna Skoda announced that the Summit County Health Department would be hosting Laurie Garrett, an expert on infectious disease and bio-terrorism, on August 24, 2004.

NEXT SSAB BOARD MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 20, 2004. Notice of any special Board meeting will be sent out to Board members.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.