

Harney County Commission on Children and Families
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2008

Attending: Ann Vloedman, Acting Chair; Joyce Moser; Debbie Ausmus; Jean Hurst; Sonni Svejcar, Patty Dorroh, Director; Maryanne Lovell, Prevention Assistant.

Absent: Dan Nichols, Chair; Michelle Bradach; Ramona Hofman; Lou Davies.

Guests: None.

Call to Order. Ann called the Meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes. At the second to last line of “Gambling Prevention Update” on page 2, Joyce noted that the word “addiction” should be added to the word “gambling” so that the sentence correctly reads “Gambling addiction is recognized as a disease.” On page 3, under “Discussion/Recommendation: HCCCF Director as County Employee,” on the last line of this heading, Maryanne was instructed to remove Patty Dorroh’s name and insert “HCCCF Director” so that the sentence correctly reads “Following discussion, the Commission went back into Executive Session during which it decided to recommend to the County Court that the Director of the Harney County Commission on Children and Families position become a County employee position.”

A motion to approve the Agenda and the corrected Minutes was made by Jean, seconded by Joyce and unanimously approved.

Harney Partners Parent Education Series. Maryanne provided an update on the Harney Partners Parent Education Series. She stated that the three March evening sessions of Becoming a Love and Logic Parent received good evaluations. Fifteen adults began the course and eleven graduated. The April morning sessions will increase to four, as a result of evaluation comments, to allow more time for questions and answers as well as role playing. Twenty registrations have been received and Love and Logic is moving to the Fellowship Hall of Pioneer Presbyterian Church to accommodate the larger group. Jean, who was thanked for permitting us to hold the classes there, suggested that there be follow-up surveys to the class members six months afterward to see if and how Love and Logic has made a difference in parenting. Sonni suggested Love and Logic tips be made available at school Parent Nights and at the Harney Partners Spring Conference. Having a “reunion” session later for the graduates was also suggested. Parenting Wisely, an internet parent education program, is scheduled for this summer. Parents can use their home computer or the Library computers, after calling the Commission first for an access code. The program takes only two to three hours to complete and the parent can do it all at once or in segments.

Director’s Report

Provider Update:

- Providers are on track. Quarterly Reports are due on April 15th.
- Our Healthy Start program is scheduled to receive a site visit from the OCCF Healthy Start office during the summer (August 7th). Patty will be part of that process.

- Boys & Girls Club: Did not submit a proposal for funding this time.
- CCR&R: Shannon Swindlehurst's work time for CCR&R has been cut to two hours per week, with more of the referral work now centralized at the state level and regional levels. With so little local paid time toward this effort, there has not been much effort or progress on quality child care in our community. One of the bidder's proposals is from Jean Johnson of CCR&R, who is the regional team leader for six counties; this is an attempt to address this situation.

Staff Update:

- Patty continues to attend and participate in CAT, Local Interagency Coordinating Council, and Harney Partners; Maryanne continues to attend and participate in Harney Partners, Reinforcing Positive Youth, and System of Care meetings.
- Patty and Maryanne will attend a training in Bend on April 24th on the new state database for comprehensive planning and outcome measurement.
- In May, Patty will attend the state commission meeting, coalition of local commissions meeting, and an eastern region directors forum in Salem – all scheduled in a two day period. There is a lot of high level work going on that we need to be part of.
- Maryanne will be attending the Parenting Now Conference on April 28-29.

Grants and Community Work:

- Patty is drafting a small grant application for up to \$750 in publications and literature from Channing Bete that can be used for our Drug Free Community work. It's due April 30th, with a June notification date.
- Every 15 Minutes Program in Crane is April 9th and April 23rd in Burns. Patty has volunteered to help with a portion of the Crane program tomorrow.
- Parenting with Love and Logic classes, part of the Harney Partners Parent Education Series: April 16, 23, 30, and May 7 at Pioneer Presbyterian Church from 9:30-11:00am. Seventeen adults have pre-registered.
- Reconnecting Families: Wendy Hill and Chris Phillips, the Region DHS supervisors for Grant, Harney, and Malheur Counties, are beginning a dialogue with the local CCF directors to brainstorm on how this model may be applied in our region.
- Harney Partners: Volunteer Awards Banquet will be held this Thursday, April 10th.
- Diamonds in a Glass fundraiser for the Boys & Girls Club is scheduled for April 19th.
- Reinforcing Positive Youth: 3rd Trimester event to reward youth who are on track across the areas of school attendance, passing grades, and no discipline referrals will be held May 14th at Crystal Crane Hot Springs. The Capstone Event is scheduled for May 20th; details are still being worked.

State Level Topics:

- OCCF and state level partners are beginning to use a "Dashboard" tool to work and track progress across children and family issues. The local commissions will be working with state facilitators during a work session to develop our own. Patty provided a handout of the state "dashboard."
- New legislatively adopted key performance measure: A new "Key Performance Measure" is being developed to provide a statewide summary of local commission progress towards selected focus areas using all locally invested funds. Before, a measure

called “Locally Invested Funds” reported the percentage of counties making progress in identified focus areas; now the measure will be whether counties are “making progress,” showing intermediate outcomes that are steady or moving in a positive direction over a defined period of time.

- **Juvenile Crime Prevention:** There is a perception among Juvenile Directors that the commission system is really focused on early childhood, with little efforts toward juvenile crime prevention work. Commission directors statewide are intent on working more closely with the juvenile justice community. Patty has a good working relationship with the Harney County Juvenile Directors, but does plan to do more collaboration on this subject.

Next Few Months Outlook:

- **May:** Meet, deliberate, and make decisions for our funding streams.
- **June:** No meeting; staff to develop provider work plans and contracts
- **July:** JCP forum; also Peg Vanderzanden would like to visit our commission to present a training on commission advocacy and related roles.

Discussion, Dissemination of Provider Proposals and Scoring Guidance. Patty passed out Bidders’ proposals for the Commission members’ review and scoring prior to the next meeting. Patty felt that it would inhibit the Commission to have the bidders present at the Commission meeting but it is also important to have them accessible by telephone to answer any questions the Commission might have. Patty summarized what each bidder is requesting. She clarified that these proposals are applications for our funding streams and therefore present more in-depth programs than donation applications that are funded by our local flexible funds.

In answer to a question, Patty stated that Steve Bull was very pleased to hear that his donation application for distribution of a parenting book will receive funding. He and Patty will get together in May for final coordination; he is fine with a December deadline for the approved potential follow-on funding as he too wants to see how the demand for distribution goes.

Patty welcomed any recommendations from the Commission members for agenda topics for future meetings. Sonni was thanked for her initial investigation into Love and Logic some time ago.

Adjourn: May 13th is the Commission’s next meeting date. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Ann at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryanne Lovell, Prevention Assistant