

Harney County Commission on Children and Families
Regular Meeting Minutes
11/11/04

Attending: Chair: Dan Nichols; Lou Davies; Ann Vloedman;
Ramona Hofman; Sonni Svejcar; Patty Dorroh, Director
Absent: Joyce Moser; Beth Walberg; Debbie Ausmus; Michelle Bradach
Guests: Gwen Haigh

Dan called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. No public comments were offered. Call to order

Ann moved to approve the agenda and minutes as written. Motion carried. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Patty distributed example banner designs and estimates from Cindy Jennings of Creative Sign Shop. Discussion followed. The commission is in favor of purchasing a banner for use in sponsorship and other forms of publicity. It was generally agreed to purchase a square shaped banner that says "Supported by Harney County Commission on Children and Families." Ann moved and motion carried to authorize Patty to work with Cindy Jennings on purchasing a banner up to \$135 in cost. HCCCF Banner

Patty provided the Director's Report. She attended the Positive Youth Development Enrichment Day at Hines on Nov 3rd. The Quality Child Care Training is scheduled for Nov 15th at 7pm at TEC. Quarterly reports, budget distribution, and funding release documents were prepared, signed by Dan, and mailed to the State CCF office on Nov 4th. We have requested that \$8,589 be released this quarter. Ads have run in the newspaper and on the radio announcing our commissioner vacancy. The next announcement will be a media release on application for donations. The Director attended a regional CCF Directors meeting on Oct 19th and will be attending a two-day leadership institute and the quarterly State CCF meeting in Salem the first week of December. Patty continues to address our community Comprehensive Plan and Update at partner meetings and gatherings. The biennial update data gathering is now the focus of her efforts. Director's Report

Lou asked Patty how we're doing as a commission and as a community. She stated that based on comparisons with other eastern counties, Harney County is doing well across the board on community mobilization and progress in priority areas. Gwen said she'd like to see more rural participation and involvement in programs taking place in the Burns-Hines area. She also mentioned that the Big Buddy Mentoring Program has a group activity planned at the Lincoln Jr High building on Nov 17th at 6 pm. Ann recommended that our media releases about donation applications be clear so that smaller groups know that they are eligible to apply for funds. Comments

Dan opened the discussion on whether the commission should sponsor a public forum for school issues. This has been discussed at the past two meetings. The discussion focused on how to have non-controversial avenues for raising concerns. Gwen suggested that commission members could go to school administrative meetings and let the teachers and staff know that you're hearing things, and now they've been given a heads up. Sonni mentioned the prolonged contract negotiations going on now between the School Board and the teachers' union. Ann suggested that we wait until all those contract matters are settled before doing anything. Sonni suggested that any commissioner can go in to see the superintendent or principal as an advocate for better communications. Dan stressed that we can't get between the parent and the school administration. At the end of the discussion, it was the consensus of the commission not to take on a role of facilitating a public forum for school issues.

Discussion:
Public Forum for
School Issues

Patty asked the commissioners for their input on the annual retreat. It was decided to schedule a one-day retreat on January 13th, from approximately 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Sonni's house. From 10-12 the commission members will set goals, review priorities, and lay out the agenda for the year. Beginning at noon, community partners (Harney Partners, Community Action Team, Juvenile Dept, DHS, and School District 3) will be invited to join the retreat for a collaborative session on advancing priority programs.

HCCCF Retreat:
Possible Dates and
Topics

The Director had some general questions about how often the Request for Proposal and Collaborative Bidding processes are used for contracting with providers. Dan stated that the proposal process was done last Spring, and that it needs to be conducted every few years in order to keep the process open to all. He suggested that Patty check the contract language. Unless the provider contracts state that they must recompetete their services every year, the proposal and bidding process is not required on an annual basis.

RFP Process
Discussion

Dan asked commission members what they thought about canceling December's meeting. Commission members and the Director said they would be very busy in December, and were fine with canceling. Motion was made, seconded and passed to cancel December's meeting.

Cancellation of
December Meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 2:46 pm. Next meeting is the HCCCF Retreat, scheduled for January 13, 2005 at 10:00 am at Sonni Svejcar's home.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Dorroh - Director