



Paul R. LePage
Governor, State of Maine

Paul K. Vestal, Chair
Edwin P. Chester, Esq. Vice Chair

Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

MINUTES
May 22, 2013

I. Roll Call:

Present: Mark Boger, Rachel Boucher, Richard Brown, Ned Chester, Esq., Dr. Joe Fitzpatrick, Jim Foss, Jacinda Goodwin, Amber Heikkinen, Carla Knapp, Judge Charles LaVerdierre, Margaret Longsworth, Pender Makin, Joan McDonald, Sgt. Jonathan Shapiro, Christine Thibeault, Esq., Paul Vestal and Patrick Walsh

Absent: Abigail Comee-McCourt, Nickole DeMerritt, Dalene Dutton, Randall Liberty, Tessa Mosher, Dan Nichols, Christine Theriault, Dr. Lindsey Tweed and Lisa Sandy

Staff: Kathryn McGloin, Juvenile Justice Specialist, Ryan Andersen, Compliance Monitor, Noël Bonam, DMC, Elaine Brann, Staff Assistant

Guests: Commissioner Stephen Bowen, Dr. Ross Greene, Scott Fish, Kamden Berry

Paul Vestal, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Paul asked Ned Chester to address Noël Bonam's proposal to attend the Georgetown University Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program. Ned mentioned Noel's proposal and asked Christine to further elaborate on the proposal.

Christine explained Noël Bonam's proposal by stating that Noel had brought up the concept of attending this training. The requirements of the training module include a team with 'the senior juvenile justice administrator in the jurisdiction (this might be a chief juvenile probation officer, the regional director of juvenile justice, or other individual with responsibility to oversee the provision of juvenile justice services and supervision), A juvenile court judge or master; and the individual who will be responsible for coordinating local efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.'" The CJJR strongly encourages teams to include a senior child welfare leader, as well as a senior school administrator. Other potential team members include other leaders and decision-makers in the juvenile justice system (e.g. district attorneys, public defenders, law enforcement, court personnel, and state advisory group members), mental health system, community members and advocates. Jurisdictions should also consider including a data analyst in their teams. The team should be comprised primarily of local (county or parish) representatives.

After completion of the program the team of four to eight members will develop a work plan, a capstone project, which would be implemented in one region and later expanding the module throughout the state.

At the April JJAG meeting it was decided that due to funding instability we would try

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to go next year. Christine spoke to Noël as she felt it was not a good time due to funding, not having the people that we need invested to be on the team, and not having a real current focus on our current DMC effort.

Noel applied and was accepted into the program as an individual and will need an additional \$1300 from the JJAG.

Christine, as a member of the DMC Committee, stated that she does not support funding that effort at this time and listed two reasons:

1. We don't have the team.
2. There are several DMC efforts underway in Maine and they're not collaborating, or connected. There is a risk of getting the certification in the expectation that we are going to do something when our current house is not in order.

Christine explained that not only is Noël spearheading efforts to address DMC, there are also efforts through JDAI and efforts through the NAACP to address DMC in both the juvenile and the adult systems. The DMC projects are not coordinating with one another and not working together. She feels that it would make more sense to wait until the current DMC landscape is a little more cohesive. Christine stated that she liked the project and the idea, but thought the timing was wrong.

Ned Chester agreed overall that this was not the time, but also added the importance of having a DMC Coordinator who is certified. Ned also commented on the fact that Noël is a huge asset to the JJAG and the DMC, explaining some of the difficulties that Noël has had to deal with, stating that in spite of it all, Noël has done a tremendous job.

Joan stated that we need to take a step back and look at where the JJAG is going long term before we get into any other projects. It is important to understand not only where the OJJDP is going, but also the state as a whole. It is important to send a team, but it is also important who that team is.

Ned also took up Joan's point in that we are doing too many things and need to distribute these responsibilities among the JJAG rather than just having us "fill in where we have to fill in." Ned further explained the need to get together to talk about what the committees are and what they are going to be doing to try to balance out the responsibilities and obligations of the members in a structured manner. Ned further explained that it is important that the JJAG get together in the fall and talk about how we should do that.

Ned made a motion that we not approve the additional \$1,300 that Noël has requested to send him to the training and certification program.

Paul suggested that we state that we are not going forward with participation this year; it will be revisited next year.

Judge LaVerdiere suggested that the motion state that the JJAG is unable to support attendance to the Conference in September and will review it next year.

Motion: The JJAG is Unable to Support Attendance to the Ethnic and Racial Disparities Conference at Georgetown University in September and will review it again next year.

Moved: Ned Chester

Action: Approved

Dick Brown also wanted to mention the work and training that Noël has done including the intervention training, the diversity model, the DMC, and that he has received high marks from everyone in the training.

Paul was contacted by the CJJ about endorsement of their Safety, Opportunity & Success (SOS): Standards of Care for Non-Delinquent Youth initiative. CJJ is asking for support from state advisory groups. The CJJ will include Maine in their list of supporters.

Christine asked about court order exception in detaining status offenses and explained status offenses on behalf of the new JJAG members.

Paul welcomed guest speaker Commissioner Stephen Bowen and asked for introductions. Paul spoke of the work of the JJAG and gave a brief history on the creation of the JJAG, and the programs and projects the JJAG supports.

II. Commissioner of Education – Stephen Bowen:

Commissioner Bowen gave an overview of the mission of the Department of Education and their efforts for building partnerships in order to reach students that are likely to drop out of school. He spoke of a system that adapts to kids rather than the other way around and that meets the needs of all kids. Commissioner Bowen spoke of working with and identifying schools that need additional support. He hopes to learn from the JJAG of a better way to partner with in looking for ways to reach that specific population of students before they end up in the juvenile justice system. Because DOE is a small department there are limits to what they can do and they are relying on partnerships with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Labor to share notes on how to maximize the resources already available. Commissioner Bowen asked JJAG Members for their thoughts, suggestions, or questions.

Jacinda spoke about discussions that she had with Barry Stoodley, former Associate Commissioner for Juvenile Services, on the importance of data. The discussion focused on how DOE and DOC can share information while acknowledging what areas lack data. This will help us understand how we can make that connection so we can share and publish our data together. Jacinda also spoke of some of the programs that have come out of JJAG and the success of the Collaborative Problem Solving (CPS) Initiative asking Dr. Ross Greene to speak about the CPS approach supported

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by the JJAG.

Dr. Ross Greene gave a short history of his work in Maine and provided information on the success. Ross explained that the need for the CPS in schools came to light as kids left the Youth Development Centers where CPS is has been implemented. These kids returned to their community schools and frequently behavioral issues arose. He stated that the schools that have completed the training and supervision showed dramatic results. Ross' goal of having CPS trained educators train other educators will ultimately show what discipline should look like in Maine. Maine will lead the way for other states.

Commissioner Bowen offered to get together with Commissioner Ponte to see if they can put together a joint summer project that would include input from the JJAG members. Commissioner Bowen listed three things he would like to focus on:

1. Review the statute on truancy,
2. Work jointly around how to better push out best practices and models that work, and
3. Data collection.

III. Compliance Monitor Report – Ryan Andersen:

Ryan stated that since the last JJAG meeting he has been to seven police departments and four district court facilities. He reviewed the site of the new Waterville Police Department and will be monitoring that process. He will review the new Brunswick Police Department building. A Judicial Marshal of the District Court in Dover-Foxcroft's secure court holding stated that juveniles and adults had occupied the same area in the holding space. Ryan believes that the design of that area can provide for separate areas. The court will be addressing that shortly, and he will be monitoring that to see if they need technical assistance.

IV. Juvenile Justice Specialist Report – Kathryn McGloin:

Kathryn introduced guest Scott Fish from the Department of Corrections and asked him to give members a brief description of the work he is doing for Corrections.

Scott Fish gave a brief background of his experience in media work and listed four areas he will be working on with the Department of Corrections:

1. Standard Communications Information
2. Help DOC to get its missions and goals out.
3. Bring DOC into the 21st Century with its use of the new media.
4. Highlight positive things happening within the Department of Corrections.

Carla announced that she has been promoted from the CPO of the Maine Native Boys & Girls Clubs to the National Director of Development for all Native Clubs in the United States. She will stay in Maine and continue her position of CPO but will be traveling as the National Director. The JJAG Members congratulated her on this appointment.

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Kathryn continued with her report stating that Jason Carey, Office Assistant, will be replacing Elaine Brann starting on the 28th of May. Kathryn also stated that Alex Fiorille, Bates College Intern, will be starting on the 28th of May as well.

Kathryn attended the JDAI RED training (Racial & Ethnic Disparities) offered by the JDAI.

Kathryn reported that the Juvenile Justice Implementation Council has joined with the Shared Youth Vision Council and is now called the Maine Council of Youth. Kathryn also stated that Chris Northrup and Senator Anne Haskell will no longer Co-chair. The Maine Council of Youth/JJIC did not receive the grant that was expected to support Vista Volunteers for the district councils.

Kathryn attended a STEM planning meeting (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and asked Pender speak about it.

Kathryn reported on the CJJ Conference and spoke of the new director of the OJJDP, Robert Listenbee, and mentioned the reorganization of the office. Maine has a new representative, Eric Stansbury. Information on the reorganization may be found here: Org Chart: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/about/divlist.asp>
Who's who: <http://www.ojjdp.gov/about/StaffList.asp?di=1&sb=division#1>

The Formula 2010 funding has been expended and will be closed out. Half of the Formula 2011 funding (approx. \$200,000) has been expended and the full amount of Formula 2012 funding (\$400,000) remains. We have not heard anything on the Plan Update for 2013 we sent in March. Likewise the JABG sent in February.

June Election:

Paul announced that after the June meeting he will not run for another term as Chair of the JJAG. Paul also announced that he will stay until his appointment to the JJAG runs out. Paul then asked Carla to present her concept plan for the Nomination Committee.

Carla presented a draft Nomination Committee concept paper and discussed the importance of forming such a Committee. Carla asked members to edit, return it to her. She will make changes and present the newest version for discussion to the group.

Ned spoke about the elections, stating that the JJAG has done a really nice job and everyone benefitted from the process. Ned further explained the need to have a formalized nomination process. Ned suggested that for now, we just want everyone to look it over, talk about the provisions, and maybe e-mail Carla their thoughts and suggestions. Ned discussed some of his suggestions and there was a discussion over term limits and nominations. Members went over the proposal and the by-laws. There were many questions and suggestions. By-laws were discussed, and Paul gave an explanation of how JJAG members were appointed along with some of the changes

that had been made. Paul emphasized that the JJAG members were appointed by the Governor, but the Chair, Vice Chair and two At-Large Chairs were appointed by the members. There was also a discussion on the representation of the members. Paul stated that he felt strongly that the election of the Chair, Co-chair and the two At-Large Executive Committee members should be elected from the floor of the JJAG.

Carla mentioned a couple of areas in the bylaws where the wording needed to be changed in order to comply with the recommendations of the Three Year Plan. There was lengthy discussion regarding members who do not attend any of the JJAG meetings and Paul emphasized that even though the by-laws state they can be suspended, officially they can only be suspended by the Governor who appointed them. Carla stated that the bylaws state that if a member misses three consecutive meetings, the Chair will notify the Governor to suspend that member. Paul stated that we have never done that and explained why.

V. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

The next meeting will be June 26, 2013 at Criminal Justice Academy, Vassalboro, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon.