

Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

MINUTES
June 27, 2014



Paul R. LePage
Governor, State of Maine

Bartlett H. Stoodley, Chair
Edwin P. Chester, Esq. Vice Chair

I. Roll Call:

Present: Richard Brown, Ned Chester, Nickole DeMerritt, Esq., Dalene Dutton, Jacinda Goodwin, Carla Knapp, Pender Makin, Christian Muhitira, Colin O'Neill, Tessa Mosher, Lisa Sandy, Jonathan J. Shapiro, JJAG Chair, Bartlett Stoodley, Christine Thibeault, Esq., Patrick Walsh

Absent: Kamden Berry, Mark Boger, Rachel Boucher, Abby Comee-McCourt, James Foss, Amber Heikkinen, Hon. Charles LaVerdiere, Sheriff Randall A. Liberty, Margaret Longsworth, Dan Nichols, Dr. Lindsey Tweed

Staff: Jason Carey, Staff Assistant; Kathryn McGloin, Juvenile Justice Specialist; Amanda Findlay, Maine State Government Intern

Guest: Katherine Lauze, Prevention Specialist (SAMHS); Page Nichols, The Real School; Lt. Glen McGary, Portland Police Department

1st JJAG Meeting in the field under new meeting structure.

Dalene Dutton, Executive Director of Five Town Communities That Care, our host for this meeting, welcomed everyone to the Fox Hill, McLean Hospital facility in Camden and provided a brief historic presentation of the buildings.

II. Chair:

The JJAG meeting was called to order by Bartlett Stoodley, JJAG Chair, at 9:32 A.M. and introductions were made.

Christine Thibeault took this opportunity to share a quote from the June Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) Conference in Washington, D.C. A speaker from the Burns Institute offered, "Child well-being is an effective public safety strategy." Christine would like the Marketing and Outreach Committee to adopt this message.

Kathryn read a letter from JCCO Warren Brown to RCM Josh Ash. The letter summarized Mr. Brown's gratitude to the JJAG for a community service and mentoring program. He stated, "They [Penobscot Boy's and Girl's Club] go above and beyond ensuring kids have transportation and ample opportunities to serve." He continues on by noting that without the Club, kids would clog up the courts with failures to complete. He sincerely does not want to see this program go away.

Lt. Glen McGary, Portland Police Department and guest of this JJAG meeting, was

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introduced as the next in line to continue the good work initiated and maintained by Lt. Janine Roberts of the Portland Police Department. Lt. Roberts provided stability to the Disproportionate Minority Contact work it related to law enforcement and Portland area agencies and communities. Lt. Roberts has retired from her position. Lt. McGary is eager to continue her work.

Barry reported on the [OJJDP](#) (Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention) and the [CJJ](#) (Coalition for Juvenile Justice) conferences that took place in June, 2014. [Click here for conference agenda](#). Attendees for the CJJ Conference included Barry, Christine Thibeault, Dalene Dutton, Pender Makin and Kathryn. Barry and Kathryn attended the OJJDP training. A.L. Carlisle, from Cape Elizabeth, ME and the founder of this 30 plus year old organization, presented the [A.L. Carlisle Award to David Schmidt of New Mexico](#). Dave was a SAG chair and past president of the CJJ. [The Tony Gobar, Juvenile Justice Specialist Award was given to Reg Garff from Utah](#).

The JJAG looks forward to holding its quarterly Regular Meetings in remote locations across the state to interact with the people of those communities.

As Barry reviews the new committee structure, he asks for feedback on moving from a structure that utilizes committee co-chairs to one with vice-chairs. This may help to clarify roles within the operations of subcommittees. Please **respond** to Kathryn or Barry. Committees are the core of JJAG's work.

III. Minutes:

The minutes for the March 28th, 2014 JJAG meeting were approved.

Motion: To approve the March 28th, 2014 Minutes

Moved: Dalene Dutton/Patrick Walsh

Action: Approved

IV. JJ Specialist Report:

Kathryn reported that Robert Listenbee, Administrator at the OJJDP, is interest in participating in a JJAG meeting via conference call to discuss issues relating to states. Details to follow.

The JJAG filed a Technical Assistance request to bring Karen Williams, MSSW, back to Maine in August for THRIVE and the JJAG. THRIVE's audience on August 18th and 22th will be family, youth advocates, providers, and JCCOs. On the 19th Karen will present on the latest research and best practices on adolescent brain development at Long Creek Youth Development Center on the 19th and at Mountain View Youth Development Center on the 21st. Wednesday the 22nd plans are being made to include police officers.

State victim advocates and prosecutors are also interested in having Karen's

information at the October prosecutor's conference.

OJJDP Training – highlights from the OJJDP Training in Washington, D.C. will be emailed upon request. *Email: Kathryn.McGloin@maine.gov*

CJJ Conference – [see web for highlights from this year's CJJ Conference, Celebrating 30 years!](#)

Compliance Monitor & DMC Coordinator Position – The DMC Coordinator position will be combined with the Compliance Monitor Position and that proposal is currently in the hands of Human Resources.

Kathryn noted that PJJDP Administrator Robert Listenbee announced a new guidance for core requirements Jail Removal and Separation. Mr. Listenbee offered that the new regulation will go into effect over the next two or three years however the expectation is that States will begin to comply now. The new guidance points out that the intent of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act is to apply those requirements to "...juveniles in secure custody, but also to those juveniles in nonsecure custody." These changes will effectively have the Compliance Monitor visiting every potential place a juvenile may be held under public authority. There are about 260 facilities that will need to be monitored under this change. For Maine, this means an increase of almost 40% in monitoring responsibility based on where we are today with our monitoring universe. Mr. Listenbee will be requesting feedback from the states. Please let Kathryn or Barry know if you have any questions or concerns.

V. Committee Reports:

Committee co-chairs: Please send member updates to central office, Kathryn McGloin, on a regular basis... Each committee has an action plan to maintain and follow. As those are updated, please forward action plans to Kathryn so we can keep up with and share the changes.

Barry asks that members advise Kathryn of subcommittee meetings. Also co-chairs should be sharing all minutes with other subcommittees. It is important that all committees develop and share a sense of plurality.

Committee co-chairs should have developed a governing process for their own respective committees. Other members are advisory to the core group of a committee.

Ned reminds us that all subcommittee members from all subcommittees still spend 5 hours a month with your respective subcommittee in order to keep this new JJAG process alive and healthy.

Training & Education (TE) – Training & Education has been meeting regularly. The TE has collected four documents to use as models to draw from in building a campaign as it relates to Maine: 1) [School to Prison Pipeline Report, by the Council of State Governments](#) 2) [Dangers of Detention Report, a Justice Policy Institute Report](#)

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3) [Truth of Youth Toolkit, by Arkansas DYS](#) 4) [Cost/Benefit Analysis, by National Conference of State Legislators](#)

Recruiting new members is a priority for the TE Committee – they are specifically looking for JCCO’s and youth members.

Tasks defined to date include:

- Creating diverse statewide think tanks that discuss and share issues of juvenile justice throughout the state
- Recommending the Marketing and Outreach (MO) Committee adopt “Child well-being is an effective public safety strategy” for outreach/branding messaging
- Prepare a few experts, a small panel, to deliver quality presentations at the Maine Principal’s Association Annual Conference as well as the Superintendent’s Annual Conference.

Marketing & Outreach (MO) – The committee displayed proofs of materials they have designed including one-page intro sheets, fact-sheets, Department of Correction’s DOCTalk articles (Department of Corrections Magazine), info-card for juveniles, and email newsletters.

Amanda Findlay designed a brochure template for juveniles and their families about the juvenile court process. Christine offered to assist with content.

MO also introduced its proposed Marketing and Outreach Plan which includes a budget and policies for process and approval as well as social media.

Nominating Committee (NC) – Committee members are Richard Brown, Nickole DeMerritt, and Carla Knapp. The NC will meet and monitor the following: bylaws as they relate to the NC, membership review, and other work. NC will be monitoring for membership expiration and renewal.

The NC currently has two candidates: Marcus Niedner, and Mellissa Cilley.

Youth Engagement (YE) – The YE held a conference call meeting on June 18th with potential youth members at Long Creek Youth Development Center. A. R. Gould School Principal ,Jim Boisvert, was instrumental in getting youth and staff involved for this long-anticipated and productive phone meeting.

The group identified goals and parameters upon which to act. The youth were asked for their suggestions and input. There is interest in holding a YE meeting in their facility.

YE will continue to approach Mountain View’s facility to engage youth there. The aim is to have youth from both facilities participate. Colin O’Neill will assist with the arrangement of this initial meeting.

In an effort to both orientate and gain knowledge of youth interests the YE asks other committees to provide information on what they are working on and how youth might help. The YE would like to help youth be directly involved with the work that has already been identified as “needs to be done.” The next step in the process is inviting these youth to offer their valuable input about what they think needs to be done.

Systems Improvement (SI) – The Systems Improvement Committee has not met yet. At the next Regular Meeting, Barry requests that all members have an opportunity to talk about areas of the juvenile justice system they think are in need of improvement.

Carla Knapp, suggest that one way to improve the system is to be sure kids know what they are being charged with when they are being held. Carla notes that kids are often confused and don’t know why they are being held. She offered that it would be helpful to have a small card lists charges, similar to our Know Your Rights Card, to give to the youth.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) – The DMC Committee is coming along, but slowly. The Compliance monitoring and DMC coordinating will be combined and reclassified into one position. The first step in moving forward is to get somebody hired.

Ned reports that he, Christine, Barry, Jonathan, and Kathryn are working with others from the UM Law School, the ACLU, CLAC and Lives in the Balance on opportunity to improve and reform our juvenile justice system with National Campaign for Juvenile Justice. The group hoped to have a package ready to go for the fall. (Please find the document, *The National Campaign to Reform State Juvenile Justice Systems* at the end of the minutes.)

VI. Departmental Reports:

DOC – Colin O’Neill started by announcing Dr. Ross Greene will be coming back to offer Collaborative and Proactive Solutions (CPS) training in the two facilities.

There is a significant contract with Restorative Justice Institute underway in York and Cumberland counties.

Five new JCCO’s have been hired in Regions 2 & 3. DOC and its stakeholders are developing a regional approach to solving regional problems incorporating similarities to JJAG operations. Each region will hold a rich collaborative that is capable of addressing many different field issues.

Department of Public Safety (DPS) – Jonathan reports that information sharing is a huge issue with lots of ambiguous and gray areas. As we approach alternatives to detention in a collaborative way we need to nail down exactly what we are going to do about information sharing, to everybody’s satisfaction, as it relates to juveniles.

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Jonathan believes the JJAG must to be a voice at the table during these discussions. Juvenile/criminal activities and juvenile/mental health activities are being conflated while there are two different worlds of sharing information. We must know who can legally share what information with whom.

The JJAG must insert itself in the street view of cross-systems early on. When all of these agencies, boards, and bodies are working together, collaboratively, how are we going to communicate with each other?

Initial data from OOB Juvenile Community Review Board project showed solid, static, annual police patrol produces a reduction in crisis behavior by half or more.

VI. Other:

PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) has been evolving for about a decade and last year its standards were finalized and implemented. Juvenile funding for 2014 has been effected.

The Governor has issued an assurance that while Maine is not able to sign documents stating that we are in compliance with federal PREA regulations, due to prior union contracts and agreements, Maine will work to come into compliance with these standards. These standards apply to both adult and juvenile facilities. This results in a loss of \$6,947 from Title II funding for 2014. The Maine JJAG will continue to work with the Department of Corrections defining where the money may be used in order to improve this situation. These funds cannot be applied to the adult side of the system.

Robert Listenbee also announced that he believes the Act will be re-authorized this year, late in the fall.

VI. Presentation:

Dalene Dutton and her staff presented the successful Five Town Communities That Care project. It is a prevention program for the onset of delinquent behaviors, violence, substance abuse, suicide, school dropout and teen pregnancy.

IX. Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be September 26, 2014 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at The REAL School, 1 Mackworth Island, Falmouth.

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