

## **JJAG Executive Committee November 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Nickole Wesley, Ned Chester, Barry Stoodley, Jacinda Goodwin, Jonathan Shapiro, Christine Thibeault

**Regrets:** Margaret Longsworth, Dalene Dutton

### **Old Business**

#### 1. Paul Vestal Award

In honor of Paul Vestal, and in recognition of all that he has given to the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group and to the high-needs, at-risk youth of Maine, the JJAG has established an annual scholarship that will be awarded to juvenile-justice system-involved youth in Maine who have demonstrated a willingness to measurably improve their lives and those with whom he/she lives or has been associated. This youth will have ambitions and plans for the future that will be enhanced by this award. Nominations from any source will be welcome but must come with the consent of the youth. When the completed application form is submitted by the published deadline, a JJAG sponsored selection committee will recommend the Winner and one (1) "Runners Up" applicant. This will be a non-appealable decision once it has been ratified by the JJAG. The winner and the "runners up" will be invited to accept their awards at an event to be established by the JJAG. If either applicant is under 18 years old at the time of the application deadline, a parent or legal guardian will need to endorse the application by signature.

All applications will become the property of the JJAG and must be accompanied by an authorization to allow disclosure to the review panel. The winner and the "runners up" must also agree to the disclosure of non-confidential information (to be determined individually with the applicant) for the purpose of the award ceremony and subsequent media publication(s).

Each year, as funds may be available; the JJAG will set aside \$5,000 for the winner's award stipend and \$2000 for the 'runners up' award stipend. In the event that no application(s) meet the criteria for award, as judged by the selection committee, no award or awards will be made for that year.

Criteria for the award will be established and published by the JJAG according to a timetable to be established by the JJAG. These criteria may include but not be limited to:

1. Exemplary involvement in the Maine Juvenile Justice System, demonstrating a transition from risky and problematical non-compliance with society's norms and expectations to a demonstrable willingness and engagement resulting in measurable improvements and engagements along with a willingness to help others, as they have helped themselves.

2. A clear plan to use the stipend to continue progress, demonstrating a commitment to public service and self-improvement.

3. The winner and “runners up” will demonstrate willingness, motivation and capacity to become a mentor or example to other youth as may be arranged by the JJAG. It is expected that public service announcements and other vehicles will be negotiated and produced subject to the mutual satisfaction of the winner, the “runner up” and the parents/guardian, if either or both are under age 18 at the time.

- The application process must be laid out
- Potential purposes of the funds: Education, service inspired work
- An award review committee will include non-members

Motion: To move forward with the Paul K. Vestal, Jr. Award/ Ned Chester and Seconded/ Nickole Wesley

Discussion: Kathryn will double check with OJJDP on allowability. The OJP Financial Guide is silent on the use of for scholarships. The Systems Improvement line will fund the award. This award will bring public attention to the JJAG and our kids.

All members in attendance approved the motion.

## 2. Meeting presentations

- Using the suggestions made at the 10-13 full JJAG meeting options were prioritized
  - i. Restorative Practices
    1. Potential forums
  - ii. My Brother’s Keeper
  - iii. Mental Health
  - iv. Child Hunger
  - v. Brain development & trauma

## 3. Restorative Justice

- RFP and/or RJJ contract
  - i. No discussion

2013/2014 Formula	Balance
American Indian Passthrough	\$34,145.00
DMC	\$72,666.00
DP	\$141,974.24
SI	\$167,286.57
TOTAL	\$416,071.57

- Assessment of RJ in Maine

- i. Discussion around where RP are being used, the quality and the sustainability of the programs
- ii. Discussion on

Motion: To present to the full JJAG a proposal to acquire an assessment of and recommendations for restorative practices in Maine/ Christine Thibeault and Seconded/ Ned Chester

Discussion:

- It is unwise to fund short-term projects.
- The assessment will allow us to learn what RPs will work in Maine.
- The assessment will promote integrity of programs and supplement and improve current programs.
- The JJAG can sponsor forums for public comment (police, schools, programs).
- Maine must move away from a culture of punishment.
- The MDOC will be included in this work.
- The Systems Improvement Committee will move this ahead.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. Stipend for Youth Members

- Discussion on stipends for youth members
- Ned Chester will present options at the next meeting
- Stipends in other states range from \$20 to \$50.

Motion: To move this topic forward/ Ned Chester and Seconded by Jonathan Shapiro.

Discussion:

- The member must be a full-time student.
- Stipends will be given for face-to-face meetings.
- The Bylaws will be amended to include the stipend.
- Funding will come from the SAG allotment.

The motion passed unanimously.

#### 5. Mentoring of New Members

- Six months of mentoring
- Use of JJAG meeting time for training
- Groups of four
- Open ended mentoring where new members may contact a mentor as needed

Motion: Add to the December 4<sup>th</sup> agenda/ Ned Chester and seconded by Christine Thibeault

The motion passed unanimously.

## **New Business**

6. Approval of the 10/13/2015 Minutes
  - Motion to approve by Christine Thibeault and seconded by Ned Chester
  - Five members Yea / One abstention – motion passed
7. DOC perception of JJAG
  - There was discussion however the Committee tabled the topic until Colin is available.
8. Meeting at Long Creek
  - Will be held on a regular meeting day
  - Two dates, approved by Long Creek, will be selected in the event of bad weather
  - A format for the meeting will be developed
    - i. Business
    - ii. Resident focus group
    - iii. Staff focus group
    - iv. Other
9. New Member Training
  - 11-23-2015, 3:00 to 5:00 pm
  - 11-24-2015, 8:00 to 10:00 am
  - Dalene Dutton & Kathryn McGloin will co-facilitate the training.