

WASHINGTON COUNTY CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL MINUTES: JANUARY 19, 2010

PRESENT: Jolene Abelson, Rick Backman, Ann Bebeau, Bob Benson, Melissa Charley, Marty Gerkey, Maggie Hart, Dan Papin, Sue Lewis, Guy Sederski, Jan Snell,

Approval of Minutes from November Meeting: Marty Gerkey moved, Jan Snell seconded, Approved.

Update from Washington County Social Services: Rick Backman/Don Pelton

*Reminder that Rick Backman, Don Pelton and Anita Keyes WILL NOT be in attendance for the March meeting.

*The State Review for Washington County is scheduled for the week of March 15, 2010.

****MARCH 16, 2010 Washington County Citizen Review Panel will meet in STILLWATER @5:00 PM****

The Child and Family Service Review will happen.

*Dashboard –Performance sheet was handed out.

*Next Meeting –Self Assessment to be commented on by panel members. Wrap up meeting on March 19, 2010.

*Staff attained Technology Grants for Oakdale /Forest Lake Police Departments.

*After hours program with Red Cross the contract is being reviewed.

Dan Papin spoke to the panel from the perspective of the Budget

Dan spoke to the panel with the ease of someone that enjoys his position and articulated well his understanding of the process, bringing it to us in a fashion that was well understood.

Highlights: BUDGET

County property tax affects county government and cuts in many departments. Last cut of \$450,000 came out of Child Services. Overall the county is down to \$339 Million from \$40.5 Million.

This causes government to Redesign Services. Also there must be a balance between all populations. The county can't control the amount of children needing services which makes budgeting a much more difficult task. A positive presence must be maintained for the Children needing the services. Strategic Opportunities must be used.

Advocacy

The need for Children's Services is needed. The message to all forms of legislators should be that "Do The Right Thing To Protect the Child". The Police works close with the Department. Placement Committees and the county manages the Child "Well".

NEEDS and IDEAS

Legislators at all levels need to hear people making a stand for Child Services.

What is the Common Good? What can we do a Citizen Review Panel- Find Success Stories and have them reported. Talk about things in our Annual Report. April is Child Abuse Month We can have a Physical Presence. Identify potential sources of Income Idea Foundations. Social Networks- Such as Facebook/Nixle

Old Business

*PCAM Walk – Saturday September 12. This committee that Melissa works hard with needs help with things like finding a "HOOK" to get people involved, sports figures, restaurants, helping with fund raising. Any member or acquaintance that can help would be greatly appreciated.

*Sue talked about the movie "Precious" which is touching and fits well with our purpose.

New Business

*February we present Annual Budget

*As a committee we can attend the monthly meetings of the Washington County Board 9 AM on Tuesdays and under audience participation bring up concerns about our budgets

Adjournment: Jolene moved / Marty seconded.

Next Meeting : Marty Gerkey and Jan Snell will not be in attendance.