

**Washington County Citizen Review Panel for Child Protection
Meeting Minutes October 17, 2017**

“Citizens partnering with Child Protective Services to keep children safe.”

Members Present:

Jan Hayne, Teri Bottum, Jennifer Dailey, Deb Eckberg , John Kiedrowski, Mike Laughton, LaJuan McIntyre, Ralph Pennie, County Representatives Sarah Amundson and Nissa Knutson

Absent: Key-C Green, Dawn Hyland

Jan chaired the meeting, starting at 5:00 p.m.

September Minutes Approved

Old Business

- **Foster Care Re-Entry File Review:** John Nalezny will update us next month.
- **Foster Care Task Force:** Met last week and came up with a logo and branding statement. If anyone is interested in working on this, please let Sarah or Nissa know.
- **Permanency Guidelines:** LaJuan, Jennifer, and Ralph are working on this with Megan Roy and Rorie.
- **Mentorship resource list/framework:** Big Brothers/Big Sisters hasn't been in contact so the meeting is cancelled at this time.
- **December meeting:** We will meet on December 12, at 6:00 p.m. at Mallards in Bayport.

New Business

- **Trainings/Webinars:** The group discussed the elevator speech worksheet from the 2017 National Citizen Review Panel Webinar “The Power of Community Awareness: Event & Ideas to Engage Others in CRP Work.”
 - We work..... as citizens with diverse backgrounds to review child protection work and give feedback and ideas for improvement, we are educated on the local system in our County and raise awareness of the system as a whole, we support and appreciate social workers, we help with reconsiderations and special projects and are available to be called on to help
 - Did you know....we helped collect duffle bags so children who on an emergency basis have to go to foster care can have something that's theirs (and not in a plastic bag), and now other groups are doing that for our kids.

- **Other Trainings/Webinars attended:** Jen attended the Mitchell Hamline program on “Why is MN Removing so Many Children to the Child Protection System” on October 13
- **Upcoming Trainings/Webinars:** Consider attending the Minnesota Child Welfare Conference (\$25). Nissa is going. Also the National Citizen Review Panel Conference is May 15, 2018 - May 17, 2018, in Detroit, Michigan
- **Membership:** New positions will post in January or February. We need a child protection person and someone knowledgeable about sexual health and a teacher would be great additions.’
- **Addiction video:** The group watched the four minute video on “What is Addiction” from the Addiction Policy Forum and discussed how it affects families in child protection. The video can be found online.
- **November meeting** – moved to November 14, 2017
- **Future planning**
 - November – re-entry update
 - December – annual report compiled from template
 - January – ICWA (maybe)
 - March – Social Worker Appreciation Month (attend meetings and bring treats?)
 - April – Child Abuse Prevention Month (declaration, community outreach?)

Washington County Update (Sarah and Nissa)

- Matt Stephenson is the new lead worker of intakes and investigations.
- Still hiring a PSOP worker.

Update from DHS (Mary)

- Annual funding per CRP has been increased to \$4,000 per year. This is in part to allow members to attend more trainings to stay updated regarding child protection issues. We may also consider using part of this money for more community awareness.
- Remember the November 16 potluck from 3:30-5:30 in Cottage Grove. Watch for an invitation to come by email.

Meeting Adjourned about 6:30 p.m.

*****Remember – DATE CHANGE FOR NEXT MEETING to November 14*****

Minutes by LaJuan and Jen