

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES SUMMARY**

Approved: 11-19-07

**DATE:** October 15, 2007; 5:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Indian River County Administration Complex, 1800 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Vero Beach, Florida, Building B1, Room B501.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Miranda Swanson, Chairperson, Karen Deigl, Kip Jacoby, Bob Johnson, Judy Jones, Harry J. La Cava, Gerry Lamothe, and Vern Melvin.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Lou Aprile, Erin Grall, P. Kanarek, Peter O'Bryan, BCC Liaison, and Roy Raymond.

**STAFF & GUESTS:** Brad Bernauer, and Marion Masterson.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** by Miranda Swanson, Chair, a quorum was present; Notice of Meeting was duly mailed and published.

**MINUTES:** Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of September, 2007.

**ON MOTION BY Karen Deigl, SECONDED BY Vern Melvin, the  
Committee approved the Minutes of September, 2007.**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Judge Paul Kanarek is on a rotating schedule that reaches from Okeechobee to Indian River, which makes attendance at meeting impossible. The group discussed Judge Pegg as a possible replacement. Brad Bernauer will contact Judge Paul Kanarek to inquire if his schedule will permit his attendance at meetings this year.

**GYAC.** Brad Bernauer reported that the Interim Director, Angela Perry, informed him that she has been unable to negotiate an agreement with Frontline representative regarding this year's GYAC/Frontline curriculum; which would result in the curriculum being dropped from GYAC's program. The committee discussed the re-allocation of those funds (\$52,000), which IRC (Jason Brown, Budget) says is feasible. Staff will also consult the County Attorney's Office regarding the ramifications of withdrawing the CSAC contract.

**EARLY LEARNING COALITION.** ELC will deliver a copy of their re-audit to Human Services as soon as it is completed in December. Vern Melvin, an ELC Board Member, confirms that a "clean audit" is expected.

**ORIENTATION.** Orientation for CSAC agencies being funded this year will be on October 18, 2007; any committee or subcommittee member interested is welcome to attend.

**ALLIANCE OF OKEECHOBEE & THE TREASURE COAST.** The Shared Services Alliance of Okeechobee & the Treasure Coast was formed in 2003, with a mission to provide the opportunity for all children to reach their full potential. One of the major purposes of the Alliance is to encourage joint planning for local resources. The Alliance is a forum through which services for children mandated and funded by the State and Federal government are planned, organized and coordinated. By-Laws state that there shall be five representatives of each county.

The current Indian River County representatives to the Alliance are: Michael Kint, Beverly O'Neill, Brad Bernauer and Leslie Spurlock. Bill Brunner, Sheriff's Office, has resigned his position on the Alliance; and recommends Andy Bradley as the Sheriff's representative on this committee.

Chair called for nominations for this position;

**ON MOTION BY Bob Johnson, SECONDED BY Karen Deigl,  
ANDY BRADLEY was unanimously approved to serve on  
the Alliance of Okeechobee and the Treasure Coast.**

**GRANT:** Bob Johnson reported for Lou Aprile. Grant Review Subcommittee met on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Presenter was: Early Learning Coalition.

Early Learning Coalition. - This interview resulted from the concerns of the subcommittee concerning ELC's latest financial audit. The (latest) audit was not filed with ELC's RFP 2007/08 application. Upon the subcommittee's inquiry at the grant review on June 8<sup>th</sup>, ELC stated that the audit was complete and a copy would be delivered to Staff. At the interview Grant members also inquired if there were issues to be aware of. The new Executive Director, Nancy Kline, who was present at the interview, responded; "No". Staff received the "latest" audit and forwarded copies to grant members. Upon review of the "latest" audit, Kip Jacoby, also a member of the Grant Review Subcommittee expressed concern regarding the audit report and compliance report.

Nancy Kline explained that at the time of the interview ELC was not aware what questionable costs were going to come back. All corrected actions have been completed and "signed-off" by the State; and Ms. Kline believes that the errors of 2005-06 are "behind them". They have reorganized the office staff and re-established short and long-term goals. She explained that upon receipt of the (first) final audit on March 31<sup>st</sup> she was not aware of the questionable costs; and during the interim period from March to June 8<sup>th</sup> (the date of the interview); and she was under the impression that the audit submitted with the RFP was the 2005-06 audit. At that time she was in the process of re-submitting the audit and locating missing paperwork, which Ms. Kline believes was the major problem with the audit, except for the "ineligible children" issue. She took responsibility for and regrets the communications error and asserts that ELC will perform will with its financial documents in the future.

ELC is in the process of a re-audit and will deliver a copy to the committee as soon as it is completed.

**NEEDS:** Karen Deigl reported that the Needs Assessment Subcommittee met on October 4, 2007. There was not a quorum, but the subcommittee discussed Gaps for children with disabilities & gaps in newborn childcare. The group discussed a potential gap in services for organizations that serve children with disabilities. Staff will contact: Deaf and Hard of Hearing organization, to speak at the next meeting; as well as Pam King, Childcare Resources, to speak on newborn childcare needs at the February meeting. It was noted that the ordinance governing Children's Services Advisory Committee stipulates that "children" must be under the age of 18 years. The group agreed that the meeting schedule should presently be every other month, so the next meeting will be 12-6-07, and the following meeting will be 2-7-07.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT.**

Chair reported that the Oversight Committee met on September 27<sup>th</sup>, at the United Way, Vero Beach, FL. The purpose of the meeting was to review their goals, as set by the Countywide Needs Assessment, and assess other groups and individuals interested in working on projects with the Oversight Committee. There was particular interest in the Community Leaders Group formed by Bill Curtis. The group receives staff support from the Chamber of Commerce, but is qualified as an “independent” group of community business leaders. Oversight Committee Member, Michael Kint, will be contacting Bill Curtis to an Oversight Committee meeting in the future. It is hopeful that the two groups can work on a community project together.

The Chair adjourned the meeting.

**Meeting Adjourned**