

**WAYNE CO FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL
MINUTES
May 7, 2007**

Present: John Tooley, Wayne Co. MR/DD
William Mateer, Wayne Co. MH&R Board
Karen Galloway, 21st Century/CFHS
Jeff Anderson, Department of Youth Services
Bob Hurdle, Catholic Charities of Wayne Co.
Richard Owens, Wayne Co. Dept. of Job & Family Services
Robert Zeh, Your Human Resource Center
Cameron Maneese, Council Coordinator
Suzie Huse, Help Me Grow
Helen Meyers, Orrville Area United Way/Orrville Turning Point Coalition
Dan Good, Wooster City Schools
Polly Baker, Parent Representative
Raymond Leisy, Wayne Co. Juvenile Court
Rob Johnston, Wooster YMCA/Wooster City
Jim Miller, The Village Network
Greg Halley, Wayne Co. Health Department
Sylvia Upp, Consultant
Greg Lubelski, Wayne Co. Library
Cherie Graham, Parent Representative
Mary Metic, Parent Representative
Melinda Hill, OSU Extension
Randall Muth, Wayne Co. Children Services Board
Gary Porter, Christian Children's Home of Ohio

Guests: Chris Kick, The Daily Record
Robert Smedley, Mental Health & Recovery Board of Wayne-Holmes Cos.
Mark Stefanick, Wooster City Schools
Alex Davis, Wooster Community Hospital
Margie Byrd, Wayne Co. Dept. of Job & Family Services
Al Shure, Wayne Co. Juvenile Court
Melody Snure, Gault Family Learning Center
Lynn Moomaw, Wayne Co. Schools & Career Center
Naomi Snyder, PPNCO

The meeting was held at the Kinney Building located at 2534 Burbank Rd., Wooster, Ohio. The Chairperson, Rob Johnston, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Introductions were made.

MINUTES

Mateer made the motion seconded by Graham that the Minutes of the April 2, 2007 meeting be approved as submitted. Motion approved unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee –Johnston reported:

- Transition of Help Me Grow from Catholic Charities to Tri County ESC is moving forward, they are working to make it as seamless as possible.

- The next meeting is scheduled for May 21st at 9:00 a.m.
- After reviewing HB 289 further it was decided that the Chairs for the Committee needed to be a member of the Executive Committee. Johnston then asked for a vote on the Bylaws as amended and presented today:

Tooley made the motion seconded by Halley that the Wayne Co. Family Council's Bylaws be accepted as amended and presented by the Executive Committee. Motion approved unanimously.

Resource Management – The committee did not meet this morning – no report.

Planning Committee – Mateer reported in the absence of the Chair:

- Have decided to focus on one commitment – that children are ready for school as it relates to the Help Me Grow Program. This is a starting place and we will broaden this to include other entities over time. The items they will use to measure this include: Child find, home nurse visits, early childhood screenings, immunizations, and transition after age 3.
- They have spent a fair amount of time discussing asset building and protective factors and how we want to measure these with reasonable validity. Mike Vimont is doing a special presentation for the committee on May 14th at 8:30 in regard to this. All Council members are welcome to attend.

Communications – Hill reported:

- The committee has been discussing the possibility of doing a small parenting program on the AM radio station and would like authorization from the Council to pursue outside funding for this. They are looking at doing 13 shows and would be on Mondays at 12:30.

Meyers made the motion seconded by Graham that the Wayne Co. Family Council authorize the Communications Committee to pursue outside funding to cover the cost of the parenting program on the AM radio station. Motion approved unanimously.

- Upgrading the web site has had some challenges. The site looks nice, but the structure underneath needs quite a bit of work. Currently the links are not working and some people feel it is too busy. They would also like to make it so staff can update the site themselves. They are in the process of talking with a developer to take on this project.
- Brochure is still a work in progress. They got some very good feedback from the parent groups.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mateer made the motion seconded by Tooley that the Financial Report as of March 31, 2007 be accepted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Mateer reported:

- Audit of the TANF funds may have implications on the administrative surcharge the Council has been taking for grants. This may mean an increase in system shares. This will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Maneese reported:

- She needs authorization from the Council to submit the Operational Capacity-Building Fund (formerly State Cluster Grant) application for funds. As in years past this is for \$20,000, \$18,500 will be used for administrative expenses and \$1,500 to cover parent stipends.
- Asked Mertic to report on the Regional Family Representative meeting that she and Graham attended last month in Hudson. Mertic stated the training was around how to get involved and be equal partners at the table in your local Family Council. She stated this was not really necessary locally as parent representatives here already have this opportunity. We may want to consider reaching out to other families (other than those who have special needs children). May want to do this by having quarterly meetings with parents in all school districts.
- Maneese reported the Safe Communities funding for Wayne County has been reduced from \$35,000 to \$32,400. She also reported that we have been approached by the State about the possibility of pulling Ashland County in with our county and Holmes County. She and Anne Goone will be discussing this with the state over a conference call later this afternoon.
- Children Trust Fund grant has been approved in the amount of \$38,000, so we can move forward with the programs at the Wooster YMCA and Alice Noble.
- The Embracing Our Differences - Ohio exhibit is remarkable and encouraged everyone to attend.

HELP ME GROW

Huse reported:

- Case load and compliance numbers are slowly increasing.
- Submitted the grant application for FY08 and it has been approved at the first level.
- The Sick Child Care Committee continues to move forward with the possibility of implementing a program in Wayne Co. They are currently researching with professionals and businesses to see if they would be willing to support such a program. They are looking at housing the program at the Viola Startzman Free Clinic

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Good reported:

- Students are participating in make up exams.
- Special tests begin next week in the schools.
- Attended an interesting meeting regarding the idea of providing early childhood services at one site. This would be services for children pre-school through post secondary learning. At this point this is only at the exploration stage.
- Reported that funding for all day kindergarten and elimination of regional services have been eliminated from the State budget.

Owens reported:

- In the process of coordinating the asset survey, but need the school's involvement in this in order to make this a successful undertaking.
- The Title XX meeting is May 10th at 9:00 a.m. Asked that those involved read through the funding proposals, as at the meeting we will decide which proposals to fund and at what levels.

CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES (CFHS)/21st CENTURY GRANT

Galloway reported:

- The grant application for CFHS was submitted and has passed the first level.
- Grant one of the 21st Century grants will end on June 30th. At next month meetings we will set up a display of the activities done over the last five years.
- Tri County did apply for a third 21st Century Grant that if funded will fund programs at Lincolnway and Cornerstone in Wooster and in the Ashland City Schools.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Open Forum

- Snure distributed the outside wrapper for the Growing Together Newsletters. The committee has decided not to pursue a prenatal issue instead they will use the funds to reprint the first issue as we are out of those.
- Meyers reported she has a small fund for impact development and for emergencies that walk through the door.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Johnston, Chairperson