



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Commission on Sensitive Crimes

*Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?
Who does not have a voice at the table?
How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?*

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

8:30 AM

A. Call To Order

Chair Miyasaki, Amy Brown, Amy Scarr, April Kigeysa, Shannon Barry, Olivia Xistris-Songpanya, Dana Pellebon, Heather Le Monds attended by Zoom.

Chair Miyasaki called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m.

Present 7 - SHANNON BARRY, AMY BROWN, HEATHER LE MONDS, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, DANA PELLEBON, Supervisor APRIL KIGEYA, and Supervisor OLIVIA XISTRIS-SONGPANYA

Excused 1 - BETH FREEMAN

Absent 3 - SHARYL KATO, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, and GREG ESSER

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2022](#)
[MIN-510](#)

Attachments: [2022 1115 COSC Minutes](#)

A motion was made by BROWN, seconded by BARRY, to approve the minutes.
The motion carried by a voice vote 8-0.

C. Action Items

None.

D. Presentations

None.

E. Reports to Committee

None.

1. Agency Updates

-Le Monds reported for Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Community Justice Council Crisis Stabilization Initiative is being researched by the County on how to move forward in 2023. New positions added through the budget process will be implemented early 2023. CYF is phasing out the program Children Come First, enrollment is low; CCS case management is doing well.

-Scarr reported no LTE's nor Intellectual and Developmental Disability Advocate have been hired in Adult Protective Services, APS is in the hiring process for these positions. Elder Abuse and Adults at Risk is understaffed (due to open positions and maternity leave), there is a waiting list currently for investigations (around 5 days). Division Administrator Angela Velasquez is in charge of Disability and Aging Services, and Adult Protective Services now.

-Brown reported the Victim Witness Unit, is hiring two new positions, one being a Victim Witness Case Manager. Several Attorney's with experience returned to the DA's office. January is incredibly busy with Jury Trials; there has been a large increase in Defense Attorney's trying to get access to records. Clarifying legislation with Marcy's Law, (victims have the right to privacy, but no definition of what that 'right' is) Victim's can get restitution but is not entirely clear on Administrative Code, Constitution or State Law; they do not all align and are not entirely clear to the victim.

-Barry reported for Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, three of five positions that were vacant, are now filled. Housing First Coordinator, Crisis Intervention Coordinator are two positions not filled yet. Shelter is trying to stand alone, DAIS is trying to hire third shift Crisis intervention to answer the help line, the idea is someone is always available to support those in need. A rise in severe crimes, complex cases, and issues needing to be brought to Supervisors attention is at an all time high. Shelter is also very expensive and little is being funded through the state or city, which is a challenge for non-profits.

-Pellebon, Rape Crisis Center (RCC) has three new positions Multi-Cultural Outreach Advocate for Black Community, Prevention Coordinator and another CCS Worker. Bilingual position for Spanish Speakers in being looked at. There is an increase in violence, violence in relationships, noticeably high rates of attacks with weapons. Credentialing with Insurance will happen in the first quarter, so community members can use insurance at RCC.

-Gittens Escudero reported Unidos has three positions open currently (Community Engagement Coordinator, Legal Advocate, and Victim Services Advocate), hiring has been challenging. 2023 will be a year to look at fundraising plans and analyzing data. Increase for services and complex cases, counseling services, and sexual child abuse is seeing an increase as well.

-All of the above supervisors mentioned hiring is a challenge due to experience and skills; the applicants applying for positions do not have the experience needed. The applicants see these huge position descriptions due to new requirements with Human Resources. No MSW's are applying, and it is quite Expensive to live in Madison or Dane Count, applicants feel they would need more than one position to make a livable wage.

Attendance update Virginia Gittens Escudero joined at 8:51 a.m.

- Present** 7 - SHANNON BARRY, AMY BROWN, HEATHER LE MONDS, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, DANA PELLEBON, Supervisor APRIL KIGEYA, and Supervisor OLIVIA XISTRIS-SONGPANYA
- Excused** 1 - BETH FREEMAN
- Absent** 3 - SHARYL KATO, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, and GREG ESSER

2. CCR Updates

-Pellebon CCR met this month to discuss Public Protection & Judiciary board; two points of concern were funding & Offender Treatment in Dane County. there are several Transitional Centers throughout the country, the only thing Dane County has is Juvenile Resource Center. Not a great option for Child Sex Offenders, Juvenile Trafficking Victims start aging out of resources at 15.5.

-Scarr reports Elder Abuse CCR, Domestic Violence and Later Life, Financial Abuse Specialist, Hoarding Task Force are all going to be reconvening in 2023. There will also be a Conference for Domestic Violence and Later Life in Fall 2023, which will include a 4 hour keynote for LGBTQ+.

-CCR on Child Sex Trafficking, regrouping for 2023 and will start meeting regularly again.

3. Legislative Announcements/Updates

-Supervisor Xistris-Songpanya - Health and Human Needs brought up Resolution - 234, a re class of social worker to an CPS Access Supervisor in Children, Youth, and Families. There was opposition and support of this Resolution, a lot of back and fourth,

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 8:30 a.m. at 2865 N. Sherman Avenue in Madison and via Zoom.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjournment

Chair Miyasaki called to Adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m.