



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 18, 2022

8:30 AM

A. Call To Order

Guests and staff present: Jennifer Ginsburg, Peter Grimyser, Marlys Howe, Amy Scarr, Allison Schlotz, and Howard Thomas

Chair Miyasaki called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

- Present** 7 - SHANNON BARRY, BETH FREEMAN, SHARYL KATO, Supervisor MAUREEN McCARVILLE, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, DANA PELLEBON, and GREG ESSER
- Absent** 4 - AMY BROWN, HEATHER CROWLEY, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, and Supervisor CECELY CASTILLO

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021](#) MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 16, 2021
[MIN-539](#)

Attachments: [2021_1116 COSC Minutes](#)

A motion was made by FREEMAN, seconded by BARRY, to approve the minutes.
The motion carried by a voice vote 7-0.

C. Action Items

None.

D. Presentations

None.

E. Reports to Committee

1. Agency Updates

- Ginsburg reported 2021 was Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center's busiest in 22 years, with more than 400 forensic interviews conducted. Approximately 20% of its cases were outside of Dane County.
- Scarr reported Dane County I/DD Victim Advocate Cortney Doescher-Hino is on extended leave and cases are being assigned to other Adult Protective Services investigators. The Collaborative Stabilization Coalition will host a lunch and learn on February 17 that will include updates from law enforcement, on the development of the Dane County Triage & Restoration Center, and on the CARES (Community Alternative Response Emergency Services) Team working in downtown Madison.
- Barry reported Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) hopes to hire a legal advocate this week and continues to recruit for a bilingual/bicultural legal advocate. A small number of COVID-19 cases have been diagnosed among those using the DAIS shelter. The shelter has been closed and its occupants housed in hotels while the facility receives a deep cleaning. DAIS had a record number of first-time callers in 2021.
- Kato reported The Rainbow Project is seeing increasing referrals, more delays in court cases and an increase in communities of color needing basic human needs. A nurse has been hired to begin working with psychiatrists in February. A major filtration upgrade is underway at the office. Groups remain underway in county schools.
- Schlotz reported 493 individuals received Forensic Nurse Examination services at UnityPoint Health - Meriter in 2021 -- down from the high mark in 2019. The NOC shifts on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays remain unstaffed, but a recent hire is training and is expected to begin taking cases in late January.
- Pellebon reported the Rape Crisis Center (RCC) is seeking a bilingual/bicultural advocate, is expanding therapy services, and two new therapists are beginning work. Efforts are underway to expand FNE support services at Planned Parenthood, which would be RCC's third site.
- Esser reported COVID-19 illness is impacting Madison Police Department patrol services. Shift changes will occur the first week of February, with officers at all levels taking new assignments. Special Victims Unit Detective Sergeant Julie Johnson plans to retire soon and Matt Norquist will replace her. Many of the department's detectives are currently attending court cases. To help alleviate patrol staffing issues, the Community Policing Teams will merge, cutting the number of teams in half. The West District has seen an uptick of investigations involving vulnerable adults in care facilities. Weapons were discharged during a pair of carjackings over the weekend.
- Howe thanked Supervisor McCarville for sponsoring a resolution approved by the County Board for a BAWA regional prosecutor grant position in the District Attorney's Office.

2. CCR Updates

Child Abuse & Neglect: A trauma summit with a focus on secondary trauma will be held virtually on 21 January.

Elder Abuse: There wasn't a meeting in January. In 2022, the CCR will meet every other month, as will the Financial Abuse Specialist group. Planning for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (15 June 2022) will begin this week.

I/DD: The group will meet on 19 January and hear a presentation on the I/DD population and sexuality.

Domestic Violence/Sexual Abuse: Two surveys were distributed to members -- one to survivors and one to non-survivors -- seeking input about how the recently combined CCR should move forward. The deadline to return the surveys is 31 January.

Child Sexual Exploitation Subcommittee: The group is seeking to collect data on marginalized groups who are unlikely to report crimes.

3. Anti-Spyware Project Update

Barry reported UW-Madison Assistant Professor Rajul Chatterjee and his group of volunteers completed DAIS' 30-hour advocate training and have examined the electronic equipment of a small number of DAIS clients. In one case, spyware was discovered. Chatterjee requires that an advocate be present so that if spyware is found, a safe plan for dealing with it can be formulated. Barry suggested that other agencies who may be interested in using the anti-spyware services contact Chatterjee directly.

Attendance Update

Pellebon departed the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Present 6 - SHANNON BARRY, BETH FREEMAN, SHARYL KATO, Supervisor MAUREEN McCARVILLE, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, and GREG ESSER

Absent 5 - AMY BROWN, HEATHER CROWLEY, DANA PELLEBON, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, and Supervisor CECELY CASTILLO

4. Legislative Updates/Announcements

Supervisor McCarville reported that 86 members of the public testified at a recent County Board meeting regarding Public Health Madison & Dane County's mask mandate during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the majority saying the Board should not get involved. The Board voted overwhelming not to get involved. Approximately 12 supervisors have opted not to run for reelection in April and two incumbents will face challengers. Moving the Dane County Jail project forward continues to be a high priority for the Board.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting: Tuesday, 15 February 2022, 8:30 am. via Zoom

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None.

I. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Howard Thomas pending commission approval