



Dane County

Minutes

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, July 16, 2024

8:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the
Aging & Disability Resource Center
or virtually via Zoom.

See below for additional instructions on how to attend the meeting and provide public testimony.

A. Call To Order

Staff Present: Amy Scarr, Joe Aguilar, Nela Kalpic, and Priscilla McCarthy

Chair Pellebon called the meeting to order at 8:32 A.M.

- Present** 7 - SHANNON BARRY, BETH FREEMAN, Supervisor DANA PELLEBON, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, HEATHER CROWLEY, ANTHONY GRAY, and ERIN WELSH
- Excused** 3 - AMY BROWN, VANESSA STATAM, and EUGENE WOEHRLE
- Absent** 1 - SHARYL KATO

Welcome to new Committee members and Chair Dana Pellebon

B. Consideration of Minutes

Sharyl KATO joined the meeting at 8:41 AM.

- Present** 10 - SHANNON BARRY, BETH FREEMAN, SHARYL KATO, Supervisor DANA PELLEBON, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, HEATHER CROWLEY, ANTHONY GRAY, ERIN WELSH, MOLLY CARADONNA, and MATTHEW NORDQUIST
- Excused** 3 - AMY BROWN, VANESSA STATAM, and EUGENE WOEHRLE

[2024](#)
[MIN-140](#) MINUTES FROM JUNE 18, 2024

Attachments: [Minutes 06-18-2024](#)

The Minutes were moved by FREEMAN, Seconded by BARRY to approve the Minutes. The motion passed by a voice vote (7-0).

C. Action Items

D. Presentations

E. Reports to Committee

1. Discussion on Committee goals, expectations, and committee members priorities

2. Agency Updates

Freeman reported for Disability and Aging Center, Adult Protective Services (APS) presented to Health and Human Needs Committee, the challenges APS is facing and the work that is happening specific to APS. There are gaps with neglect of those who have Dementia and older adults who may have mental health related issues. The State of Wisconsin released a report of the Crisis Response, the report stands for Systemic, Therapeutic, Assessment, Resources, and Treatment (S.T.A.R.T.), we will be presenting this next meeting.

Barry reported for Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAiS) they have been incredibly busy this summer and shelter is full with a wait list of about 60. The Court Watch Program is finishing up the most recent studies they have done over the past year. There will be an advisory group that is coming out of this. Domestic Violence Awareness Month is October, the Annual Luncheon will be on October 1, 2024 at the Park Hotel. The focus will be the Men's Clubs (Middle and High school men's clubs) and Primary Prevention Program, there will be a rally after on the Capital steps following this event. The inaugural Unity Fair will be October 19, 2024, there will be food trucks, family fun activities, music, this will help to bring awareness to Domestic Violence. The housing first program has been extended to the end of 2025. The 24/7 Domestic Violence program is very expensive to keep running, shelter takes over half of the yearly funds to operate. DAiS needs to raise half of their yearly revenue and they need to raise \$2 Million in fundraising (a year) currently to meet the service needs.

Crowley reported for DCDHS, budget proposals have been put fourth to the Interim Director. Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) has been very busy with trafficking complaints and calls, specifically the Sex Trafficking Interventionist, she has been receiving many reports from CPS that are not substantiated. Working with law enforcement closely as there have been higher numbers of violence with children involved, including some loss of life of young ones. Youth Justice Program is now fully staffed, they recently hired a new Gang Outreach Intervention and Prevention Specialist, providing prevention work with youth and providing information. CPS intake has been staying busy over the summer. Emerging adults who are aging out of Youth Services are facing issues with housing and other services, which is leading to other forms of violence and creating possible situations for the adults to become victimized due their history.

Nordquist reported for MPD, they are very busy working throughout the summer. Special Victims Unit (SVU), has noticed an increase in internet crimes against children. Sextortion cases have been on the rise and how to provide services best to the department and the public.

Kato reported for the Rainbow Project, they have been very busy and noticing increases in gun violence and exposure with younger children. Noticing an increase in grandparents are raising their grandkids and noticing an up tick in elder abuse with those cases. Rainbow Project is partnering with Harmony Apartments and Officer Vic to help residents with stress reduction, grief and loss, and exposure of violence. Officer Vic will be one of the recipients of the Extra Mile Award, for the 20th Gala Event by Rainbow Project, it is September 20th, 2024.

Ewers-Hayes for the Dane County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) they have also noticed an increase in sextortion cases this summer. There are 4 dedicated detectives who work on Domestic Violence specifically. Week of 4th of July showed a large increase in drug and alcohol child abuse that were very violent.

Supervisor Welsh reported for the Health and Human Needs Committee (HHN) there was an update last meeting from Adult Protective Services.

Gray reported for Public Protection and Judiciary Committee (PPJ), they are just finishing up a marathon of reports to the committee from the departments they oversee and to the new members on PP&J. There's an intricate web of services and agencies they are learning deeper about. Learning what the resources are to better help victims, possibly steer funds away from programs that aren't meeting the public need.

Pellebon reported for the Rape Crisis Center (RCC), they are having a very hard time with not enough service facilitators (CCS). There seems to be an increase in more people who have been trafficked, costs are exorbitantly high. Housing crisis is an issue as well, transitional housing program (RCC in partnership with Unidos), exploring a house option that was brought forward by a community member. Outside housing first program may work if the transitional housing doesn't work, vacancy lists are much different from how they used to be updated and property owners are not calling people back. Increase in engagement from UW students, expanded the grant to allow for evening hours. RCC is looking for space downtown for office area, to provide an office area, they are hoping to partner with. DaneMac (Mobile Forensic Nursing Exam Program) for the office space. Current Forensics Nursing Program at Meriter is struggling due to staffing shortages, they currently have a program set up at UW for students. explore ideas where people can come in and connect with advocates while they are in the space, ASM funding would be very helpful for finding space downtown.

3. CCR Updates

Scarr reported for Elder Abuse/ Financial Abuse CCR, there was a great presentation from Adult Protective Services about the differences in decisions for guardians versus power of attorney. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15th, 2024). Domestic Violence in later life (November 1st) this conference will be virtual and will be held with UW-Green Bay, Continuing Education credits are available for this. The focus will be on Safety Planning with the survivor and others who would like to be involved.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault CCR - working to build out a space for survivors of Domestic Violence / Sexual Assault, it is going to be survivor lead and to help the survivors. Community Audits have observed gaps in services for victims. Funding issues are at play but wanting to bring this to the forefront of the conversation. POS leadership update, only a portion of POS providers are being included involved that are contracted by the county. Looking for new ways for new contracted POS agencies to be connected to coalitions, if this is able to be bridged, we would have a full view of services.

Individuals with Developmental Disabilities (IDD) CCR, the first meeting is July 17, 2024. They intend to meet quarterly.

Child Abuse CCR, resolution before city council. hoping to go to county board, recognizing April, May, June, July as these are national awareness months (for PTSD, Mental Health, BIPOC Community, and Trauma). There have been several inquires about Trauma Informed Care and the basics on CDC information on how adverse childhood events have an impact on youth.

4. Legislative Announcements/ Updates

Attorney General Sexual Assault Response Team - Legislation going before the committee, if a victim presents at a hospital for trauma and has a warrant (for a non-violent arrest) they should not be arrested. The Legislation will hopefully go forward to the board and then the Attorney General, needs to be bipartisan. Hoping to keep engagement with people who were engaged with VOCA fixes.

BIPOC Mental Health Coalition - Kato will send out additional information on the Press Release

Barry reported for the Governor's Council on Domestic Violence, they voted to approve a policy brief. It discusses the costs of domestic violence is close to \$600 million a year, governors office is going to advocate for additional funding for domestic violence and then help distributing funds. Majority of funding is through Department of Children, Youth and Families, those funds have not increased in nearly a decade.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 8:30 A.M.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjourn

A Motion to Adjourn was made by GRAY, Seconded by CROWLEY. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Priscilla McCarthy, Pending Commission approval.