



# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: March 8, 2006, 5:00 pm

**Location:** United Way Good Neighbor Center, Renton, WA

**Board members present:**

Non-Fiduciary	Sonia Foss	Cynthia Chandler	Clem Benton
	Florenda Wyatt	Kerry Annette Wade	Karin Schuyleman
	Betty Nomura	Margie Staulcup	Kim Bennett
	Anthony Hogan		
Fiduciary	Cathy Williams	C. C. Scott	Asosa Sailiai
	Vyrn Muir		

**Board members excused:** Binoy Varughese                      Don Lincoln                      Alan Bulger (Alt.)

**Guests present:** Jean Hueston, Board Alumni  
Denise Hogan  
Ashley Chaplin

**Staff members present:** Dianne Heide                      Denese Bohanna

**Call to order** – Chair Kerry Annette Wade called the meeting to order at 5:10

**Quorum** – There was a quorum.

**Agenda** – Approved as written with the addition of a discussion from the PRP Committee

**Good Neighbor Center Update**

Dianne reported that some of the support services at the Good Neighbor Center (GNC) are being reduced for tenants. United Way staffers will no longer be greeting visitors to the building. This means visitors coming to the GNC to visit with staff will need to be sure to call first to make sure they are in the building. Upon arrival guests are asked to take a seat in the reception area and wait for Dianne or Denese to come get them. This new policy means Board members should avoid making “surprise” visits – if staff does a guest is coming then it could be wasting a trip.

Now that the new smoking regulations have been passed the GNC is enforcing strict guidelines for smoking on the property. If Board members wish to smoke during break they are asked to go out to the parking lot in front or out by the bushes in the back. Sorry for the inconvenience but any tenant caught breaking these rules will no longer be allowed to use the meeting rooms!

**Approval of December 12, January 11, February 8 Minutes**

**Motion 1**            Cynthia moved to approve the December 12, 2005 minutes as revised, the January 11 minutes with changes and the February 8 minutes with changes. Second by Clem. The motion passed.

**Contracted Staff Agreements**

Kerry announced that the agreements with Denese and Dianne have been finalized and are all signed. Some Board members noted that the Board would have to start the process all over soon in order to have contracts in place by July 1, 2006. Kerry reassured them that the next contract would be much easier since all the changes to make the documents legal have now been done.

**Statement of Work and Service Reports**

Kerry announced that the Family Policy Council has reviewed and approved the Statement of Work (SOW) and three Service Reports – she shared the final approval letter to the entire Board and chocolate the Family Policy Council sent in congratulations. The Service Reports that have been approved are for Collaborations/Community Training, Board Development and Review of Community Efforts. The Family Policy Council did not approved the Service Reports for Communications including the work with “targeted audiences” or the portion of the Community Training that was ”targeted” to schools and business. They have requested that the SKCCN Board undertake a feasibility study of “targeted audiences” to assure that those efforts will be successful and measurable.

Denese took some time to run through the final contents of the Statement of Work and Service Reports that have been approved by the Family Policy Council. All Board members were provided with a copy of the final documents and encouraged to speak up if they had any questions.

The updated SOW states that the SKCCN Board will focus on three problem behaviors:

- Domestic Violence
- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Youth Violence

Youth Violence was added to the original to provide a short term measurable.

The listed short term outcomes in the SOW are:

- A. Reduce major stressors for non-offending parents (i.e. reduce social isolation and homelessness, increased economic supports, increase knowledge of parenting skills)
- B. Reduce adult perpetration of domestic violence
- C. Increase child safety  
Increase child knowledge and ability to act on knowledge of factors that contribute to their own violent behavior
- D. Strengthen families, improve early child development and parenting skills in targeted neighborhoods

The population for the work will focus on:

- A. Non-offending parents
- B. Victimized parents
- C. Children who experience or are exposed to family violence
- D. Children and families in targeted neighborhoods

### **Next Steps – Feasibility Study**

Kerry explained that the Executive Committee has already done some preliminary work on the feasibility study and set the following goals:

1. What are others in the community doing?
2. What strategies can the SKCCN choose that will meet goals?
3. How can we as a Board be confident about our strategies?
4. Will what we want to do work? How can we make a case that shows why we believe we can accomplish the mission and that chosen strategies will have an impact?
5. What leverage points are available? What are the traction points?
6. Who are the possible partners in our work?
7. What are the steps that need to be taken to accomplish our goals?
8. How can we motivate ourselves and the community?
9. How can we measure success?

Some additional suggestions for new ways for the Board/staff to work included:

1. Having Board members help in doing the research.
2. Having staff members swap committee assignments for one meeting or attending the other’s meetings at the very least.
3. Making sure those members that are “action” oriented and those that are “planners/thinkers” have tasks that will excite them.
4. Help everyone feel like they had a “hands on” experience.

The final result would be to decide on “targeted audience(s)” for our work and that we know the following:

- Who should we reach?
- How should we reach them?
- Why should we reach them?
- How will we measure success?

The goal for finishing the feasibility study and finalizing a Service Report on targeted audiences will be May 15. This date was chosen to assure that the Family Policy Council would have time to review the proposal and work with the SKCCN on any changes, or additional planning, so that we can have everything approved and be ready to start work July 1.

The Communications Committee is already working to collect information on several “targeted audiences”. Dianne explained that because the SKCCN now has so many wonderful new Board members the Committee wanted to start fresh. They will continue to study ways of working with businesses and schools but also wanted to allow new ideas to be considered. After some brainstorming it was decided to add Day Care/Head Start/Early Childhood and Healthcare providers to the list of those being considered for targeted messages. Dianne will be working on the existing proposal for businesses to see if there is a better way to explain the Boards goals or to expand the effort to better meet FPC expectations. Both staffers will be working to bring the eight school superintendents (or their representatives) together for a discussion of how the schools are handling this difficult problem.

The Board suggested also considering law enforcement, hair stylists (through a program called “Cut it Out”) and working with youth.

Additional discussion included what kinds of information they wanted to provide to targeted audiences and how that information could be provided. The Board wanted to be sure that the SKCCN was not just looking for ways to patch holes but would be providing information that would build needed skills. Most wanted to know how the SKCCN could open dialogues with the schools and were happy to hear that work was underway to speak with the Superintendents directly. The Board was reminded that there are dozens of possible groups the SKCCN could target but the final decision must be based on the answers to the questions posed by the Executive Committee. One end result could lump several of the groups together such as schools and early childhood providers.

Kerry informed the Board that there would be a Retreat on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am until 3:30 pm at the Kent Youth and Families Head Start facility. All Board members are expected to attend if at all possible. Final information about each of the ideas for targeting will be provided at the Retreat and the Board will make final decisions at that time. This will be a fun, informative session with lots of discussion. Geof Morgan from the Whatcomb County Network will act as facilitator. This will be the third time Geof has joined the SKCCN as facilitator and his expertise will be valuable to our work.

#### **Ideas to Remember**

It was suggested that if the Board chooses to work with Early Childhood it would be a great idea to consider the creation of a cartoon for kids. Something that they could watch and learn about domestic violence in a non-threatening way.

Final Note: Many wanted to make sure that the work with “targeted audiences” would not overshadow the important policy work of the Board.

#### **PRP Committee Request for Input**

Karin spoke to the Board on behalf of the Committee. The group has been working to track partnerships and sorting through research so that the Board can have meaningful conversations about policy. They have now reviewed research on five different subjects including:

- Cultural diversity
- Early learning/youth children
- Parenting and the role of fathers
- Training for first responders
- Visitation and custody

They have identified that there are two different directions the group could take for next steps and wanted the Board to tell them which way to go. The two suggestions were:

1. Share a summary of the research reviewed framed around possible ways to reduce stressors in the lives of non-offending parents, or
2. Bring in a group of survivors and ask them to share what would be most helpful to them to change about current responses to domestic violence.

The Board asked the PRP Committee to work on bringing survivors to the Board so that the Board could hear their stories. As part of that effort the Board was also encouraged to attend victims panels and Kim promised to email the group two days before the next session in Auburn.

**Committee and Staff Reports**

All reports were provided in writing.

**Meeting Evaluation**

Short comments from the Board about the meeting included:

- We are now on the move
- Happy about what we are doing
- We are doing pretty good – getting questions answered but we need a solid area
- Excited about the focus
- Excited about the new faces
- Energetic
- Nice to have focus
- We need to do lots more research!
- Feels like we are getting some traction
- Impressed by our new members
- Stressed over the amount of work to be done and the time line for getting it done!

Meeting adjourned – 7:06

Minutes Approved:

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_