

MEETING SUMMARY

COMMITTEE: Citizens Council

DATE: Friday, December 13, 2002

TIME BEGAN: 8:10am **TIME ENDED:** 10am **FACILITATED BY:** Gil Schohan **SUMMARY BY:** Judy Buswell

PRESENT: Sue Smith, Andre Paquette, Sheila Weeks, Mark Condodemetrazy, Peter Michaud, Jim Pilliod, Alida Millham, Leo Sanfacon, Dick Wallace, Kevin Washburn, Bob Rovella, Mary Alice Warner, Evelyn Auger, Gil Schohan **STAFF:** Alan Robichaud, Judy Buswell **EXCUSED:** Scott AndersEn, Jim Carroll, John Irwin **ABSENT:** Linda Brewer

1. **Approval of Minutes** Motion made to approve minutes of the November 8th meeting of the Council as written was made by Andre Paquette; second offered by Jim Pilliod. Motion carried
2. **Change of Order of Agenda** Gil asked if the presentations by Council officer candidates and voting could be moved to the end of the meeting, due to anticipated late arrival of some Council members. There were no objections.
3. **Report from Executive Director**
 - a) **“All God’s Children”** Alan offered to pass along a book lent to him by Evelyn Auger called “All God’s Children” by Fox Butterfield. According to Alan it is a good read and a strong testimony of what can happen in the juvenile justice system. He recommends it to others.
ACTION:
 - **Anyone interested in borrowing this book should contact Evelyn Auger.**
 - **Community Technical College Course** The semester course ended with the last session dedicated to projects and reports. All gave outstanding presentations.
 - **Advocacy Bulletin** A 1-page bulletin, “Nine Questions for Advocacy Planning” copied from the latest issue of the Nonprofit New Hampshire newsletter, was distributed to Council members. This bulletin contained 9 suggestions for advocacy and will be a good tool for Council members.
 - **Delegation Luncheon** Seven members of the County Delegation attended a luncheon hosted by the Council. All but 1 of the Delegates came from the same district and most of the Council members who attended were also from that district. This type of activity should be repeated with other Delegation and Council members. Lots of good discussion occurred. A visual that outlines the inter-relationships of BJJJ, Restorative Justice, and the current Citizens Council was distributed.
ACTION:
 - **Judy will email a copy of the visual she prepared to all Council members.**
4. **Committee Reports**
 - **Planning Committee** Peter said three communities (Barnstead, Gilmanon, and New Hampton) will hold their Forums in early 2003, once the new Council members are in place. The Committee is now preparing an Annual Report for distribution at the Annual Meeting in January. Draft copy of this report was emailed to all Council members who were asked to provide their feedback to Judy who will be formatting this report for publication. The next Planning Committee is scheduled for January 6th, the 1st Monday in January.
ACTION:
 - **All Council members will review the emailed draft copy of the Annual Report for content changes and email their comments to Judy before Tuesday, December 31st.**

- **Public Relations Committee** Committee Vice-Chair, Kevin Washburn, reported that the major work of this Committee is preparing for the Annual Meeting on January 21st; 6:30pm at the County Complex. Alan Cantor will be the featured speaker. The invitation list will include members of the former BJJ. The second annual Schmitt Award will be presented to an “un-sung hero” working on behalf of children and families in Belknap County.

ACTION:

- **Gil, Alida, and Judy will meet the week of December 16 to design the protocol and parameters for the Schmitt Award**
- **Committee Assignments for 2003** A sign-up sheet was circulated to all Council members for council members to identify the committee of their choice during 2003. Committee Chairs will be elected at the first meeting of the committees following the January Annual Meeting.
- **NH CAN Children’s’ Agenda** The formal release date has been changed to Tuesday, January 14th at 10am in the Legislative Office Building in Concord. NH CAN would like as many as possible to attend this event.

ACTION:

- **Council members who are able will plan to attend the presentation of the 2003 agenda for children as interpreted and compiled by the NH Children’s Advocacy Network, of which The Council is a member.**
- **Candidate Presentations** Candidates for Council Chair and Vice-Chair offered brief presentations on their visions and goals for the Council during 2003.

5. **Old Business** The Council discussed additional strategies for follow-up from Community Forums held in November. Each community will have different follow-up needs. As the Forum outcomes will help shape the final Council plan, the Planning Committee will continue to discuss these options at greater length.

ACTION:

- **Follow-up strategies for Community Forums will be added to agenda for the Planning Committee**

6. **Voting** Ballots were distributed to all Council members present. The non-voting Council staff and Council Chair counted the votes. As agreed previously, only the winners’ names would be shared; however, actual numerical results would be given to anyone who requests this information. The winners were Alida Millham as Council Chair and Sue Smith as Vice Chair. Council members offered many comments of appreciation for the contributions made this past year by all candidates. All members’ efforts and ideas are needed in 2003. Gil asked for feedback on this election process. The consensus seemed to be positive.

7. **New Business**

- **Community Partner Awards** Council members briefly discussed issuing “Partnership” and “Community Associate” awards to honor individuals and institutions that provided outstanding assistance during the Council’s first year of existence.

ACTION

- **The Executive Committee will select 3-5 choices to honor with “Community Partner Awards” at the Annual Meeting and will determine a process for appropriately thanking the many others who have assisted the Council during its first year.**
- **Council Members should email any suggestions for these awards by January 2.**
- **NH Healthy Families Campaign has** requested that the Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families sign on to their statewide campaign to increase the tobacco tax as a strategy to reduce tobacco use among youth. Extra monies would be earmarked for tobacco prevention and cessation programs around the State. Their request was emailed earlier to all Council members. As the Council has not yet completed its final Plan with designated priorities, it was moved that we not join this campaign at this time. Motion carried.

ACTION

- Alan will notify the NH Healthy Families Campaign that the Citizens Council is not able to join their campaign at this time.

NEXT MEETING

WHEN: Friday, January 10th, 2003 8-10am

WHERE: Busiel Mill, River Room

Council Meetings during the winter months of January, February, and March will be held at the Busiel Mill.