



THE HARBOR – EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

Juvenile Assessment Center Minutes

June 26, 2019 – 1:00 PM

The Harbor

861 N. Pecos Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89101

Minutes taken by Vikki Andrews

Present

City of Las Vegas

Lee Quick, Management Analyst

Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services

John M. Martin, Director – *Board Member*

Eboni Washington, Asst. Director

Cheryl Wright, Clinical Services Manager

Brett Allen, Manager

Vikki Andrews, Administrative Secretary

Clark County District Attorney's Office

Brigid Duffy, Chief Deputy District Attorney, Juvenile Division – *Board Member*

Catherine Jorgenson Deputy Civil District Attorney

Clark County Family Courts

Judge William Voy – *Board Member*

Clark County Department of Family Services

Jill Marano, Asst. Director – *Board Member*

Clark County Law Enforcement

Chris Darcy, Deputy Chief, *on behalf of Kevin McMahonill, Undersheriff Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department* – *Board Member*

George, North Las Vegas Police Department

Clark County School District

Dr. Tammy Malich, Assistant Superintendent – *Board Member and Chair*

Community Representative

Punam Mathur, Parent Representative – *Board Member*

Department of Health and Human Services

Ellen Richardson-Adams, Outpatient Administrator, Department of Public and Behavioral Health Services – *Board Member and Vice Chair*

Eagle Quest

Dave Doyle, Director – *Board Member*
Diomar Chen

The Harbor

Cesar Lemos, Executive Director
Gina Shanks-Collins

Workforce Connections

Jim Kostecki, CFO – *Board Member*

Community Guests

Barbara Collins, Principal, Mission High School
Tay Mathur

Present by Phone

Robert Wiers, Director, Psychological Services – *Board Member*

I. Call to Order

Dr. Tammy Malich, Clark County School District (CCSD) and Chair called the meeting to order, there was a quorum.

II. Public Comments

None at this time.

III. Approval of September 26, 2018 Minutes

The March 27, 2019 minutes were approved.

IV. Approval of December 19, 2018 Agenda

The June 26, 2019 agenda was approved.

V. Appointment of Youth Representative, Current Term of Arnija Hooks has Expired

The term of Arnija Hooks, Student Representative has expired. With that a new youth representative will need to be selected. Cesar Lemos, The Harbor, has been working with Barbara Collins, Mission Recovery High School, to identify possible youth representatives for the board. Dr. Tammy Malich, Clark County School District (CCSD), has also identified a possible youth representative. There is hope that a representative and back up will both be selected at the next Executive Steering Committee (ESC) meeting. Because neither youth were able to attend today's meeting, this item will be moved to the next agenda.

Dr. Malich shared with the committee that the youth that she has identified came to her attention while she was out in the community. His mother shared with her that The Harbor Charleston "saved his life", and that he is excited for the opportunity to be a part of the board and providing a youth perspective.

VI. Discussion Regarding Development of The Harbor Youth Council

Mr. Lemos, Cheryl Wright, Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS), Gina Shanks-Collins, The Harbor and Ms. Collins, have been working to create a Harbor Youth Council to gain a youth's perspective for the ESC. The Harbor will partner with Ms. Collins and Mission Recovery High School to have meetings once a month as a sixth period class; Cesar and Gina will attend to moderate the meetings. They will focus on areas of gaps in services, concerns, effective measures for attendance issues, marketing

strategies, and other ways that can keep the youth engaged. Mr. Lemos gave credit to Ms. Wright for coming up with the concept of a youth council.

John M. Martin, DJJS, asked if the youth council will need to be formalized with how many members will be allowed, if legal council will be required or if anything formal will need to be written. Catherine Jorgenson, District Attorney's Office, will review the inter-local to see what is required, and if there will be any open meeting laws that need to be adhered by. Dr. Malich had concerns that teens may not be comfortable with open meeting laws of being recorded and having to follow a specific agenda for discussion topics. The committee motioned and approved to move forward in researching the requirements of creating a youth council.

VII. Discussion Regarding Information Sharing Between The Harbor and CCSD

Mr. Lemos and Dr. Malich have worked out issues regarding information sharing between The Harbor and CCSD. Staff who are stationed at The Harbor should understand that information can be shared per the inter-local agreement. Bob Wiers, CCSD, stated that he and Joe Roberts from CCSD, would ensure that his staff understand the inter-local agreement. Dr. Malich asked that both Harbor sites provide the information to CCSD monthly so that information can be entered into their database, Infinite Campus, in a consistent manner; this will allow CCSD to easily pull reporting data. Outcomes are not entered into the database and The Harbor does not have the ability to input data into infinite campus. If the The Harbor had the ability, it would allow more people access to the record and many families are not comfortable with their child's information being shared with the school district. If the parents approve the information sharing, there is a process that must be followed for the district to receive the information. The biggest concern for the ESC and families is that a referral to The Harbor not be weaponized.

During the School Justice Partnership meeting, it was discussed that schools and teachers are unaware when a child that they have referred to The Harbor have received any follow up. Information of what happened during their appointment with The Harbor cannot be shared without a release of information being completed, but they can be told if a referral was followed-up on, or if the child and family appeared for an assessment. Mr. Lemos stated that when a referral is received through The Harbor system, whoever refers receives an automatic reply that the referral was received. There is also a process in place to reach out to those who made the referral after the child is seen at The Harbor to let them know if they were seen, without the family's private information being shared.

VIII. Discussion regarding behavioral school supports

Mr. Martin informed the committee that he has been meeting with CCSD Superintendent Dr. Jara, Mr. Barton, and Dr. Malich regarding Peterson Academic Center and wrapping the school in services by getting vocational education programs and other resources into the school. Mr. Martin has reached out to WorkForce Connections, DETR, and additional providers that may be able to provide resources. There has been a lot of traction and many employers and providers have shown excitement about connecting with the school. There have also been discussions about possible child care and child care grants for the facility. Mr. Martin is asking the ESC if The Harbor could provide any kind of support to Peterson, and to be an active part of the schools success. There are plans for DJJS to put a probation officer at Peterson as a coach, who will do CBT type work and will be heavily involved. Peterson happens to be the most populated school by probation youth. Dr. Jara is willing to leverage magnet schools after hours to transport the youth to magnet sites for like programming. Youth who go to Peterson can go anywhere from one semester to graduation. Peterson is not only for the youth who get in trouble, but also for the disengaged youth. Mr. Martin referred to research done by Bob Tartar. One of the foundations of his research was "Achievement Coaches", people who would be advocates for the children, who would help the youth and families navigate the systems. Mr. Tartar has been helpful in looking at blended learning models, such as google

classroom and hands on learning. The committee motioned and approved for The Harbor's involvement and support with Peterson Academic Center and their vocational programming.

IX. Discussion regarding chronic absenteeism

Mr. Martin is asking the ESC for the The Harbor to be a committed resource in supporting the reduction chronic absenteeism as The Harbor would be a natural fit to be in partnership with this project. Mr. Martin has been involved in meetings with Superintendent Jara, Bob Tartar and others who are working on this project. The ask is to utilize The Harbor and its resources to assist in teaching educators how to welcome kids into their campuses, and to possibly do some type of advertising geared towards parents that emphasizes the important of education in a way that will connect with them on a parental level. The idea is to reach out to youth and families in a more positive and supportive methodology. Youth who do not attend school have an increased risk of juvenile justice involvement. Reducing chronic absenteeism also increases revenue and graduation rates. The committee motioned and agreed that The Harbor should be an active partner in the project of reducing chronic absenteeism.

X. Discussion of 501c3

Eboni Washington, DJJS, is researching ways to increase revenue for the department and for The Harbor. The Harbor has been fortunate in receiving additional funding from the State, and as a group there has been a great job done of leveraging the resources available. Ms. Washington has identified several grants that could benefit The Harbor, providing services to the community and funding for expansion. The grants that have been identified however are restricted to non-profit organizations. Judge Voy informed the committee that becoming a non-profit organization is fairly easy to do. The steps involved would include having a lawyer create a 501c3, followed by going back to the Commission and adding the 501c3 as a partner to The Harbor in the inter-local agreement. Doing this would allow the ESC to apply for the grants as member of The Harbor without The Harbor itself becoming a 501c3 as an entire entity. Ms. Jorgenson clarified that the County does not have the authority to create a non-profit, it would require one being created that wants to partner with The Harbor, or a current non-profit wanting to partner with The Harbor. The 501c3 that partners with The Harbor would also need to have a mission that aligns with The Harbor's mission statement and goals. Ms. Mathur suggested current 501c3's such as the Public Education Foundation, United Way, and The Community Foundation. Judge Voy suggests that this item should not be an action item by the ESC but an informal conversation, and that those with connections to non-profit organizations can discuss further and identify a non-profit that would fit. It was clarified that the non-profit would not be a member of the ESC.

Ms. Washington asks if it would make better sense to reach out to an existing non-profit, or would it be better to collaborate with individuals in forming something specific. Mr. Martin states that The Harbor may not get the same legislative support in the future, and it would be in the long-term best interest of The Harbor for a Harbor specific non-profit to be formed. It was suggested that the ESC reach out to existing non-profits to become eligible for some of the grants currently available. Ms. Mathur will work with Ms. Washington on this agenda item, and Dr. Malich adds that the Public Education Foundation may be on board.

XI. Discussion of AB322

The AB322 bill did pass in legislation. Within that bill was \$3.2million dollars allocated to The Harbor. The ESC gave a huge thank you to Brigid Duffy for all of her hard work in the legislative session. It was stated in legislation that the ESC should consider a Harbor in the 89030 area. The process has already begun to get a Harbor up and running in that area. The data shows very clearly that 89030 and 89108 are areas that need resources and they are being looked into. There is a building identified that Ms. Wright and Ms. Washington are working on obtaining. There are also considerations to have a site on a high school

campus such as Mojave, Legacy, Cheyenne and Canyon Springs, a fire Station on Martin Luther King Blvd. which is non-operational, or the old Wal-Mart on Nellis. The Eastside Harbor will most likely open prior to one in the North Las Vegas area.

Ms. Duffy asks if the staffing at The Harbor now is adequate as she has heard some concerns that The Harbor Mojave is not fully staffed. Mr. Lemos stated that they are currently fully staffed. There was some initial turn over with clerical support, but The Harbor has hired on the appropriate clerical staff to fill those needs. Ms. Wright adds that she agrees with Mr. Lemos that there is a need to increase the clerical support, but that there should also be a model of “all hands on deck” until fully filled. If the agencies stationed at The Harbor could be more flexible with their staff that would be of great assistance.

XII. Discussion regarding The Harbor Annual Report

Mr. Lemos is working on creating the annual report that will be a data comparison of 2017 and 2018. Some of the data that will be included in the report will be the expansion that The Harbor has had, the resource growth, the marketing efforts, trends that have been noticed and awards and recognition that have been received. He is hoping to have the report completed by the next meeting. If the board wishes to have any other information added to the report please let Mr. Lemos know. Mr. Martin suggests having an introduction of what The Harbor by the Executive Director or Chair Woman with a brief historical explanation, and a section around aspirations for the future of The Harbor. Mr. Martin also asks that everyone submit their logos so an affiliate page can be included. Ellen Richardson-Adams, Department of Public and Behavioral Health, adds that the annual report is something that should be posted online to help sell the story of The Harbor. This should also be presented to commissioners and different government bodies.

XIII. The Harbor Data Report

Mr. Lemos presented The Harbor data report to the ESC. One item that he, Gina Shanks and Diomar Chin have worked on is comparing numbers from each month. They noticed that in the month of March 2019 the numbers show a gap, and that it was a result of a turn-over of employees who were trained to complete assessments. Another reason for the gap is that out of 54 law enforcement drop-offs, 50 of those did not complete full assessments for various reasons such as run-away youth, youth referred to CPS, and other jurisdiction youth. In April and May the gaps have decreased. Moving forward, the staff will be educated in promoting the value of an assessment to families so they may commit to a full assessment. Although a full assessment is not completed, families still receive services and are connected to appropriate community resources.

The data report shows a combination of both Mojave and Charleston sites. The total number of youth served to date is 8,850 youth, with percentage of escalation decreasing from 4% to 3%; a breakdown of youth who have escalated shows that 76% have had law enforcement contact. The report now includes what marketing and outreach has been done in that quarter, in addition to average assessment time, average wait time, and peak hours for both sites. The Division of Welfare and Support Services data numbers have been removed from the report, as Mr. Lemos, Ms. Wright and the manager of DWSS try to find ways to present more accurate information.

XIV. Informational Items

- a. Next meeting September 25, 2019 at 1:00 pm, The Harbor, 861 N. Mojave Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89101.

XV. Public Comments

XVI. Adjournment