SANGAMON COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COUNCIL MEETING
April 6, 2016

Chairman John Milhiser called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. Copies of minutes from the January 27, 2016 meeting were distributed to those present.

Chairman Milhiser asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 27, 2016. Bill Legge made a motion to approve which was seconded by Kent Holsapple. Motion approved.

New Business

Mike Torchia shared with those present information relative to our State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017 application we had to complete a Federal Civil Rights Compliance Report. Areas that need to be developed and/or revised include: 1). Notice to program participants and employees on how to file complaints alleging discrimination; and 2). Develop and implement a grievance process for people that we serve with our programs. Mike will draft these 2 items and then seek Council input. Once these are finalized, we will need to send to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission (IJJC).

A 2015 Data Report will need to be completed. We are planning to compile data in the same areas that we did for prior years. Court Services staff will work on this report and will share with the Council and send the report to IJJC.

Shirene Thomas (who could not be present herself today) sent an article on truancy to share with the Council members present today. Some discussion was held on the article.

Old Business

Chairman Milhiser discussed the first forum (Truancy) which was held on February 25 at Lanphier High School. 70 youths were invited and 47 attended the lunch event. At the evening event about 20 youths attended but many attended without parents. Crystal Correa gave an update on what mentors have been doing. All youths have been set up with mentors. Last week there were group activities for mentors and mentees. An in-school event - 1 hour of skills training and 1 hour with mentors is planned for next week. Discussion was held by those present. Chairman Milhiser stated that this has been a positive effort and it continues.

The topic for the next educational forum has not yet been decided. Some ideas that were thrown out previously an after school event perhaps at the Boy's and Girl's Club. Discussion ensued as to some things that are currently being done by B&G Club like open gym basketball on the first Fridays of the month. The neighborhood police officers attended the first one held. Ideas were voiced about how to get parents to attend such an event including information on expungements, providing information on suspended or revoked licenses. Discussion included that license suspensions and revocations is a very complicated matter that can have many, many individualized circumstances so it would be difficult to cover that topic in a general manner and provide meaningful information to people about this topic. It was suggest that we try to get Carl Cannon to come to the event and speak. It was suggested that we try to provide information to the youths on planning ways to spend their time this summer and on activities that will be available this summer. Several tentative dates were discussed with a tentative date of June 3, 2016 being set. A subcommittee including John

Milhiser, Crystal Correa, Bill Legge and Shirene Thomas will meet in the near future at the B&G Club to do further planning work on this next educational forum event.

Other Business

Mike Torchia reported that funding for SFY 2017 had been applied for.

Mike Torchia reported that the Data Committee was working on gathering data on the first educational forum and will be continuing to track these youths so we can follow up on things being worked on with them (changes in attendance patterns, mentoring sessions, etc.).

Chairman Milhiser asked for public comment. There was none.

The next meeting of the Council will be May 11, 2016 beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the same location.

Chairman Milhiser asked for a motion to adjourn. Mike Torchia motioned which was seconded by Dan Mounce. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.