

LPSCC MEETING March 1, 2024, at Noon.

MINUTES

Attendance:

Hon. Michael Clarke, Larry Evenson, Stacia Tyacke, Mark Lang, Joshua Pond, Margaret Magruder, Hon. Denise Keppinger, Shane Kennedy, Amelia Kercher

Non-Members Present:

Melea Wendell and Nickolas Brajcich

Meeting:

Meeting called to order at 12:08 PM

Agenda

In the review of the agenda of the meeting, Clarke moved to approve the agenda and Tyacke seconded the motion to approve. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Prior Minutes

The minutes were reviewed for the February 2, 2024, meeting. Clarke moved to approve the minutes and Evenson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

JRI Progress Report – Presentation by Deputy District Attorney Nickolas Brajcich

Mr. Brajcich presented the JRI program in Columbia County. It is now referred to as Columbia County's Justice Reinvestment Program (CCJRP). This was a 6-month grant report provided by Brajcich to the LPSCC. Brajcich indicated that the grant was reduced, and they lost a 0.7 FTE position which was staffed by the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. Even though they lost the position the Sheriff's Office is still providing support. There had been turnover with Community Corrections, but that has stabilized, and the program is back to full staffing. Brajcich indicated that the program appears to be doing well and the metrics have been good. Most of the metrics are better than the state average. The program focuses on participants that are involved in Property, Driving and Drug Crimes. The program provides therapeutic and life skills services to the participants. There are currently 8 participants in the program. The capacity of the program is 12 participants. At this point, the participants are white males. The program is aware of the need to have diversity in the program. The program only services participants that are residents of Columbia County and that has affected the ability of the program to have more diversity. The program has seen a reduction of recidivism and is doing better than the state average. Lang inquired about a defense attorney representative with the program. Lang felt that would be important. Brajcich indicated that there were no plans for that at this time. The LPSCC members indicated that program is running well and thank Brajcich for the report.

New Business

No New Business

Adjournment

Clarke moved to adjourn the meeting and Evanson Seconded the motion. Motion to adjourn was approved unanimously. Meeting ended around 12:40 PM

Minutes Approved: _____

Mark J Lang, Chair