

Skagit County Law and Justice Council
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 12th, 2010, 8:15 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Rick Grimstead	Ken Bergsma	Rich Weyrich
Dave Needy	John Lum	David Svaren
Gary Shand	Gregg Freeman	Ken Dahlstedt
Tim Holloran	Jennifer Kingsley	Alan Erickson
Chuck Benjamin	Delilah George	Pam Springer
Linda Eiford	Andrea Vallee	Roxane Goss
Will Reichardt	Laurie Jarolimek	

Today's meeting began at 8:20 a.m. with introductions and a welcome from **Gary Shand**, *Skagit County Jail and Law & Justice Council Chairman*.

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There was a motion and second by the Council that the April 14th, 2010 meeting minutes be approved. The motion carried.

SPEAKERS:

Andrea Vallee, *Dispute Resolution Center*-Skagit County has been allocated \$12,763 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Act. These funds are available as part of a formula for distributing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money and therefore is not a competitive grant. Andrea Vallee from the Dispute Resolution Center has requested these funds to sustain the Victim Offender Mediation Program currently funded by a previous Byrne grant allocation. The council determined that Andrea Vallee, John Lum and Will Reichardt will meet to determine allocation and report a decision back to the council.

Attorney Jim Dolan, S.C.O.P.E. (Skagit County Organized for the Protection of Elders) – In October 2009, the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse awarded Skagit Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault a small grant to establish and maintain a community-based elder abuse prevention network. Skagit County was one of 12 communities approved for the program, out of 70 applicants nationwide. Dolan described how they are getting the word out to seniors in our community about education and services they provide such as information on scams against seniors, and elder guardianship monitoring. Several members offered their department services and collaboration on efforts as resources. (See handouts)

UPDATE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER:

Gary Shand and Tim Holloran gave a re-cap of the major points covered in the Facilities Task Force meeting on Tuesday, May 11th. There will be a retreat set up for law enforcement representatives, mayors and city officials to attempt to come together for the common goal of dealing with both the short and long term correction situation.

The commissioner's office has calculated a \$65 million dollar budget that will be available for the new facility. This figure is based on revenue from sales tax at .3% for 20 years. This figure assumes cities will participate. This figure will be taken to Voorhis to see what our options are with this new projection.

The importance of producing a jail video for public education on the current and future needs for a new facility was discussed. **Gary Shand** and **Charlie Wend** will assess what has been done to date and narrow down the message the council needs to present to the public through the video.

Tim Holloran strongly urged that a project manager be hired who would coordinate all plans for the new facility as current members cannot devote the huge amount of time needed to move the project forward in the timely manner necessary.

Gary Shand stated that the public doesn't realize the physical toll that is placed on a facility that has been overused over many years without upgrades to the necessary infrastructure. The county maintenance team has been patching and repairing the current facility, but cannot continue to do so indefinitely. He offered high praise to **Ross Bailey**, **Ron McKinney** and **Ron Kitchener** for their efforts. They have done such a good job that the public doesn't see how dire the situation is.

Next Meeting- is scheduled for Wednesday, June 9th, 2010.
Meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

Approved 6/9/10