

**EXTERNAL ADVISORY GROUP (EAG)**  
DUTCHESS COUNTY JAIL TRANSITION CENTER PROJECT  
Open Meeting

Tuesday, April 7, 2015, 6:30 PM at the Catharine Street Community Center

EAG Members present: Tim Massie, Audra Gerty, David Freeman, Andrew O'Grady, Bob Mallory,

EAG Members not present: Steve Saland, Jesse Bottoms, Jim Hammond, John Doherty, John Crodelle, Joe LePore

- Welcome and Opening Remarks - Vice Chair - Tim Massie
  - Thank you extended to Shirley Adams of the Catharine Street Community Center for hosting the meeting
  - Email address for EAG emails reiterated: [externaladvisorygroup@dutchessny.gov](mailto:externaladvisorygroup@dutchessny.gov)
  - Website for the DCJTCP EAG reiterated: [www.dutchessny.gov/dcjtc](http://www.dutchessny.gov/dcjtc)
  - Introduced George Krom, Jail Administrator
- Temporary Inmate Housing (TIH or PODS) - George Krom, Jail Administrator
  - 99% complete as of today
  - COC (Commission of Correction) items regarding fencing additions are being addressed
  - Camera and access control equipment being delivered
  - COC required programming for TIH completed
  - Emergency systems being tested
  - CERT (Correctional Emergency Response Team) currently practicing scenarios
  - Looking to have approval by mid- April, looking for initial inmate moves April 24; inmates will be moving internally as well as moving back from Albany, Ulster and Rensselaer counties; moves will be slow and appropriate to make sure that inmates and correctional officers are safe
- Update on DC Justice and Transition Center Project and Community Group Discussion - Noel Knille, DPW Commissioner
  - Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Milestone - April 1, 2015 - Project Definition Report submitted to COC
    - Available on DCJTC website
    - Contains information on: summary to date, planning process, vision, mission, summary info from the Functional Architectural Space Program (RGA document), Special Populations information, site constraints, site/neighborhood context, preliminary comments on phasing
    - COC meeting 3rd week in April to review and will get back to the County with any questions
  - Community Group Discussion
    - Brief presentation from Ricci Greene (RGA) and Cooper Robertson (urban design specialists)
    - Intent of meeting primarily for invited community members to voice their questions, concerns, suggestions as to what they might want to see on site
    - A few comments received from community members at the discussion include:
      - Parking—jail staff is parking on N Hamilton St. which reduces available parking for residents

- Site circulation/traffic
  - Attractive building, looking forward to images of possible buildings
  - Do not want to see razor wire
  - Positive comments about relationship between the Jail, specifically Administrator Krom, and the neighbors
  - Hope Dutchess County contractors will be used on any construction
  - Emphasize and appreciate historic nature of the neighborhood and bring some of the amenities on South Hamilton (light fixtures, etc) to North Hamilton
- Next steps for DCJTCP
  - Look at Conceptual sit plan options - first meeting with RGA and Cooper Robertson the afternoon of April 7th with the Internal Steering Committee
  - As some refined conceptual designs are established, they will be uploaded to the DCJTC website
  - The Functional Architectural Space Program is the list of spaces that are needed for various functions for both the Jail and the Sheriff on the site, as well as some other ancillary functions; as we move forward in the planning these spaces will be made as efficient as possible to provide the most effective and functional spaces with the most efficient square footage and most cost effective as possible
  - Next MOA milestone - Nov 1, 2015 - Design Development Plans due to be submitted
- Questions
  - Next date for Community Meeting? *No specific date at this time.*
- Special Populations Workgroup Update - Ron Knapp, Chief of Poughkeepsie Police and Chair of Workgroup
  - Dealing with the programming for the Jail, working with consultant Kevin Warwick
  - Group has been meeting monthly since August, 2014
  - Approximately 21 people involved with the Workgroup - including programming people, Jail ,Mental Health, community members
  - Sub groups – quality assurance, etc
  - Evidenced based programming for TIH has been acquired and is being prepared for use with the returning inmates
  - Most programming aimed at highest risk; though inmates must agree to be in the programs; programming is incentivised for inmates
  - Types of programming: preparing for re-entry into the community, GED, preparation to cope upon return to the community
  - Next steps will be to assess the programming within the TIH once the inmates return and start participating in the programming
  - Women's (Jail) Writing Group letter provided by Chief Knapp to the EAG members
    - 15 women who meet weekly to write topics:
      - Arts program
      - Exercising and yoga
      - Trade prep programs

- Motivational speakers
  - Gardening program
- Question: Are more people (Staff) being added to provide for the additional programming? *Yes, RFP is out for additional professional assistance and the TIH programs will help to assist in future planning for the final DCJTCP.*
- Question: Additional psychiatric, etc staff? *(George Krom responded) Yes, additional psychiatric and social workers as deemed required.*
- Website has Special Populations section - please check if interested
- Diversion Committee Update - Steve Miccio, People Inc and Chair of Diversion Committee
  - Have been meeting monthly
  - Working on actual proposed layouts for services proposed to be provided at 230 North Road
  - Have met with Office of Mental Health, Office of Addiction Services, Dept of Health to review the combination of Addiction Services and Mental Health Services at the proposed "Restoration/Recovery Center"
  - Working on Crisis Intervention Training(CIT) for police office,
    - Looking to train about 700 in the next few years,
    - Have also spoken with State Police;
    - First CIT training week of June 22, 2015 - primarily City of Poughkeepsie Police and Dutchess County Sheriff's Officers, including Corrections Officers
    - Planning "train the trainer" program to allow for cost effective in-County training
  - Subgroups: Marketing - how to we let people know about this new program; Assessment - need a good solid assessment as people come through the door.
  - Question: Centrally located location mentioned at the Bardavon meeting, what is the schedule? *Answer: It will be ready in October.*
- Questions from previous emails and from previous meetings? - Bill O'Neil, Deputy County Executive
  - Question: What programs are available for those in the Jail with substance abuse problems and what is planned for the future
  - *Answer: The County does have NA (Narcotics Anonymous) and AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) programs for men and women run by volunteers several times a week. Several Department of Mental Hygiene professional staff do work at the Jail including a Certified Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor (facilitates substance abuse awareness groups, provides anger management classes, transition planning), DMH Case Manager - weekly meetings which serve to connect female inmates with post-release substance abuse or mental health treatment. Project Definition document that is on the website provides additional information which will provide assistance for inmate transition.*
  - Clarifications from information in Valley View:
    - Steve Miccio has been instrumental in bringing the current idea/scope for the "Restoration/Recovery Center"; he and his committee are looking at all the services that should and could be provided at this Center, want to make sure that the Center opens with the necessary services and starts small, allowing for growth. Also note that it is very important to train the police officers and other who will be interacting with those with mental health issues, as Steve noted, so that they may be assisted with

evidenced based information. (Establishment of Center is contingent on current tenant/program provider at 230 North Road relocating to their new spaces. Hope to be able to have program up and running by end of 2015.)

- While Bexar County program saw significant decrease in Jail population when they put their Restoration Center in place, they had essentially no ATI (Alternatives to Incarceration) programs in place so this was the first program they put in place and the significant decrease they saw took 12 years. Dutchess County has many ATIs in place - 600+ people in ATIs currently. DC has mental health professionals and a diversion team in place. DC is not sure of numbers of inmates will be affected but the Recovery/Restoration will assist.
- Next Meeting - Tim announced that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 in the DC Legislative Chambers.
- Closing Comments - Bill O'Neil
  - TIH (Pods) - all parts of this DCJTCP need to comply with all the requirements of the COC which can be challenging but is essential
  - DCJTCP is a process of which TIH is the first step, a new, more efficient and more effective Jail building will be the next step
  - Important that the County is able to reduce recidivism and provide for inmates to be successful when they re-enter the community - this is what the Special Populations Workgroup is addressing
  - There is a group of people that can be kept from entering Jail and these will be addressed by the Restoration/Recovery Center (Diversion Committee)
  - Each of these points are important and are part of the continuum by which the County addresses and will address what is necessary to address
  - New, better designed Jails take less staff - there is research to substantiate this; money saved can be re-directed to other programs in the long term
  - The County is looking at grants and program funding that might be available to help create a cutting edge approach
  - DCJTC will be at the North Hamilton location because that is where the Jail is and maintaining it at the current location is more cost-effective and logistically feasible. The State mandates we have a jail; Cooper Robertson is looking at various options to integrate various site developments into the planning process
- Meeting adjourned by Tim Massie