

EXTERNAL ADVISORY GROUP (EAG)
DUTCHESS COUNTY JUSTICE & TRANSITION CENTER PROJECT
PUBLIC MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015 in the DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS

EAG Members present: John Doherty, Joe Lepore, Audra Gerty, Bob Mallory, Jim Hammond, Andrew O’Grady, John Crodelle, Tim Massie, David Freeman and Steve Saland

EAG Members not present: Jesse Bottoms

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

- Welcome and Opening Remarks - Chair – Steve Saland
 - Summarized meeting process and Q & A procedure; public not allowed to comment or ask questions at this meeting but can submit questions/comments on cards provided at the meeting which will be answered at the next meeting of the EAG, via email and/or posted on the website
 - Email address for EAG emails reiterated: externaladvisorygroup@dutchessny.gov
 - Website for the DCJTCP EAG reiterated: www.dutchessny.gov/dcjtc
 - Reminder—County Executive Molinaro has advocated to make the review process as open and transparent as possible; the public has ample opportunity to have their questions answered and their comments heard; questions may require additional research to obtain the best answer from the appropriate individual or agency
 - Introduced Noel Knille, DPW Commissioner
- Temporary Inmate Housing (TIH or PODS) – Noel Knille, DPW Commissioner spoke on behalf of George Krom, Jail Administrator
 - Final walk thru with State Commission of Correction (SCOC) on the morning of Thursday, April 23rd
 - Verbal approval received from the SCOC at the walk-thru to occupy PODS, letter sent from the SCOC to Sheriff Anderson on the afternoon of April 23rd approving occupancy of the (4) housing units within the (2) TIH buildings as of 8:00 a.m. on April 24th
 - Inmates began occupying the units on April 25th
 - George Krom and staff are completing assessments to determine which inmates are best suited to move into PODS; this was being done prior to the PODS being in place to determine which inmates could be moved from the current jail facility to the PODS based on their risk-level; move lower-risk level inmates from jail to PODS
 - Number of inmates varies and the process is slow and deliberate in assessing the classification of each inmate—as of today:
 - Total number of inmates on 5/5/15: 456
 - Total number of inmates in the TIH buildings on 5/5/15: 125
 - Total number of inmates housed out on 5/5/15: 59
 - Classification assessment will continue and more inmates will return each week, although a few may still need to continue to be housed out
 - Inmates and corrections officers are satisfied with the PODS

- The goal is to bring back 25 inmates per week
- Question: How is the HVAC system in the PODS? Are the inmates comfortable? *HVAC system is working fine. There was an issue with one of the coils on 5/4/15; will be replaced on Friday or Monday.*
- Question: Can we still tour the PODS? *At the March meeting of the EAG, George Krom extended an offer to the EAG members to tour the PODS. Noel will follow-up with George to see if EAG members are still permitted to tour the PODS now that they are occupied.*
- Question: What is the maximum capacity for the PODS and the jail? *200 for the PODS and another 289 in the jail, but with classification issues 450-470 is the maximum number of occupants.*
- Question: What is the target date for all housed out inmates to return? *Early May*
- Question: Why would some inmates still be housed out? *The current budget allows for 10 inmates per month to be housed out for various reasons, e.g. security, request of the District Attorney's Office, etc. It is not expected that more than 10 per month will be housed out.*

- Special Populations Workgroup (SPW) Update – Mary Ellen Still, Director of Probation spoke on behalf of Ron Knapp, City of Poughkeepsie Police Chief and Chair of Special Populations Workgroup
 - SPW has not met since the last EAG meeting
 - In between meetings, work has continued between several different workgroups to fulfill requests from the SPW; several county department staff have met to develop evidence based curriculum endorsed by the SPW
 - SPW requested that an evidence based curriculum be developed and that this curriculum be mirrored in the community so inmates can have smooth transition and re-entry into the community
 - Workflow committee to work out logistics of programming, screening of inmates for programming, post-jail transition into the community
 - Will hire Community Based Provider (CBP) to facilitate curriculum
 - Quality Assurance Committee is providing oversight and guidance to the SPW
 - Next meeting will be on May 18th; develop final curriculum for RESTART Program; have already screened 22 participants for the program
 - Question: Can you explain the Community Based Provider? *The CBP develops curriculum, CBP will work in current jail and will create linkages to the community to continue programming post-jail.*
 - EAG member, Andrew O'Grady, provided several suggestions he received from members of the public
 - Place people in similar circumstances in the same section of the jail (e.g. inmates with alcohol and drug related issues)
 - Include additional programming for inmates from local non-profits
 - Mary Ellen Still responded to the suggestions
 - Inmates are classified by risk, and therefore, inmates may not be able to be placed in the same section based on their risk-level
 - Inmates staying 30 or more days are evaluated to determine if they would benefit from programming in the jail
 - Question: Have you asked current and former inmates what programs they believe are effective? *SPW is evaluating this process, along with our*

consultant, Kevin Warwick, with the goal of continuing to offer programming in the community post-jail. An ex-offender is on the SPW.

- Question: Are there enough programs in the community to help inmates post-jail and reduce recidivism, besides their probation officer? *When the core curriculum was created it was based on what models work in the jail and in the community. When an individual is initially screened, they are evaluated based on criminogenic risk level and needs. The COMPAS is used to identify these needs and risks to offer the best services and programs. We look at which programs will work best for that individual while they are in the jail and then when they return to the community.*
- Question: Is the CBP knowledgeable about resources in the community? Do they provide information about the Justice & Transition Center project to the County? How much input will the CBP share? *The CBP is part of the team collaboration between the Dept. of Mental Hygiene and jail staff; collaboration is critical to success of the program, providing the quality assurance component that these suggestions can be implemented in the community. We have taken a county-focused approach to ensure that what is recommended can be carried out in the community.*
- Question: Is there a guarantee that sufficient staffing will be available for programming? *Yes, we evaluated the programming to ensure there would be sufficient staffing This is an on-going dynamic process that we continuously evaluate to assess if there are new needs emerging in the community; quality assurance is critical.*
- Question: Is the Evidence Based Curriculum still in draft form? *Yes, it is close to being completed; available on the website:*
http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/CriminalJusticeCouncil/ASAI_Nov_2014_report.pdf
- DCJTCP Progress Update - Noel Knille, DPW Commissioner
 - RicciGreeneAssociates (RGA) is currently working with the Internal Steering Committee (ISC) to review various site plan options for blocking of various buildings on the site and general access to and from the site
 - The meetings with the ISC held to review some very preliminary options for the site
 - Had a meeting this afternoon at which we reviewed several site options for the Jail, the Sheriff and other site functions—very productive meeting and are starting to hone in on preferred option
 - Once preferred option is finalized then RGA will focus on adjacencies within the buildings for both the Jail building and the Sheriff's building and will meet regularly with Administrator Krom and Deputy Sheriff Imperati over the next few months to develop the optimal layout
 - Cooper Robertson (sub consultant of RGA) is working to continue to assess the site, the neighborhood, the zoning, the Walkway-Gateway district, the Fallkill/CSX area and various other elements to formulate design ideas for the site and for the areas adjacent to the site to show what exciting greenway development could be possible; assessing Parker Ave and N Hamilton Street to

- see what can be done in that area to enhance neighborhood; not part of the funding for the DCJTC project but it is being considered in the project design
- RGA also meeting with George Krom and me to review detailed functional layout options for the housing units; we had an initial meeting last week at which RGA presented several options and George provided feedback as well as another preferred housing layout option to review
 - Next steps
 - June's EAG meeting should have preliminary site plans to provide to, and review with, the EAG
 - These site plans would include the potential greenspace options around and adjacent to the site
 - Detailed building layouts will likely not be shown publically through the process due to security
 - Design Development Plans due November 1st
 - Question: Will the City of Poughkeepsie zoning change in the residential area surrounding the jail? *The current jail is located in a residential zone, however, because the jail is located on county property, it provides for some leeway with zoning restrictions. Cooper Robertson is looking at the zoning guidelines in the Walkway-Gateway district which include height restrictions. The county will endeavor to comply with zoning while also enhancing the site.*
 - Question: Some residents have concerns about quality of life in the area surrounding the jail. Will the zoning classification change to address their concerns? *Cooper Robertson and RGA are continuously evaluating improvements to the surrounding area as part of the design process. The Walkway-Gateway district guidelines are the focus which will help guide the design process to visually enhance the area.*
 - Will the shared 911 equipment be stored off-site or on site at the jail? *Aim to have synergy of equipment; program will be reevaluated to assess functionality, efficiency and cost-effectiveness.*
 - What type of visitation services will be offered for the 200 inmates being brought back? Visitation and square footage being considered in design of new jail? *In terms of architectural design, yes, that is being considered in the design process. Have not yet had conversations with family and/or visitors to determine what process works best moving forward but will take suggestions in the form of a questionnaire.*
 - Will there be adequate parking? *Parking has been part of the discussion with RGA and Cooper Robertson to ensure sufficient parking will be available.*
 - Is there any kind of transportation/bus route to transport families to and from the jail? *Bob Mallory stated that the City of Poughkeepsie Common Council established a bus service committee to evaluate the consolidation of bus routes. Currently they are looking to coordinate with the county to provide transit services to the jail.*
 - Questions received via email and from previous meetings - Bill O'Neil, Deputy County Executive
 - 4 questions received today which will be answered at the June EAG meeting
 - Questions & Answers can be viewed online here:
http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/CriminalJusticeCouncil/EAG_05052015_Submitted_Questions.pdf

- Comment from EAG member: Inmates should be exposed to various county departments and non-profit organizations and similar groups, even if they are only in the jail 1 or 2 days to help with low-risk inmates. *We agree there should be programs for inmates that are in the jail for 1-3 days but it's important to remember that these programs are voluntary. Bill suggested Andrew O'Grady be included in SPW discussions.*
- Steve Saland thanked EAG members for attending. He stated the goal is to have the next EAG meeting at a community site but the fall back will be in the Legislative Chambers. Steve stated that the next meeting of the EAG would be announced via press release and would be posted on the website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.