

EXTERNAL ADVISORY GROUP (EAG)
DUTCHESS COUNTY JUSTICE & TRANSITION CENTER PROJECT
PUBLIC MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2015 in the DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATIVE CHAMBERS

EAG Members present: Bob Mallory, Jim Hammond, and Steve Saland

EAG Members not present: Jesse Bottoms, Tim Massie, Joe Lepore, Andrew O'Grady, Audra Gerty, John Crodelle, David Freeman, and John Doherty

The meeting began at 6:41 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 posted on the website
 - Email address for EAG emails reiterated: externaladvisorygroup@dutchessny.gov
 - Website for the DCJTCP EAG reiterated: www.dutchessny.gov/dcjtcc
 - To date, meetings have been held at various locations in the community. County Legislative Chambers are the default location, but the goal is to alternate meeting locations between a community center and the legislative chambers.
 - The public does have the opportunity to speak with officials after the meeting if they have pressing questions
 - The purpose of the EAG is not to make policy but provide a means to address questions raised by the community, encourage outreach in the community and to ensure transparency throughout the process. County Executive Molinaro has insisted from the beginning that the process remain open and transparent.
 - Stated there is a strong possibility there will be no meeting in July and August
- Grants Update – Mary Ellen Still, Director of Probation
 - County has taken a proactive approach in pursuing various grants and technical assistance opportunities
 - Most recently, the county applied for a MacArthur Foundation grant and the Justice & Mental Health Collaboration grant from the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance
 - Applied in April for the Justice & Mental Health Collaboration grant to be used for the Crisis Intervention Team Training for law enforcement agencies. Applied for a total of \$250,000 in funding; application is still pending
 - The county did not receive funding through the MacArthur Foundation grant but going through the application process proved to be beneficial
 - The county was not surprised that we did not receive funding; hundreds of applications were submitted with only 20 jurisdictions selected to receive funding; geographical consideration a major factor; large metropolitan areas received funding
 - New York City met the needs as outlined in the grant criteria more closely than Dutchess County so it was expected that if NYC received funding, the county would not

- Other opportunities to interact with the MacArthur Foundation in the future related to the grant; waiting for further details
- Research required to write MacArthur grant was coordinated by Public Defender Tom Angell, with assistance received from CJC Consultant Gary Christensen, Probation, District Attorney, OCIS, and will assist the County in the future when applying for other grants
- Applied for and received funding and technical assistance for the following:
 - \$1.4 million from NYS for Coordinated Jail-Based Services
 - Technical assistance from the Center for Effective Public Policy and the National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women; project that has garnered national recognition; webinar in late-June on the project, focus on research to practice and how Dutchess County was able to implement research for gender-responsive strategies for women
 - Women’s Center from NYS addressing gender specific issues
 - Technical assistance from SAMSHA GAINS Center to hold all day training on sequential intercept model for people with chemical dependencies and mental health disorders
 - Funding received on an ongoing basis for ongoing programs; funding was originally received through a grant but because outcomes were successful, turned into permanent program funding for Functional Family Therapy delivered through the Probation Office and assistance for transitional housing (NYS provides funding to support 8 beds)
- Looking at Second Chance grant application
- County will continue to search out other funding and assistance opportunities
- Temporary Inmate Housing (TIH or PODS) – George Krom, Jail Administrator
 - As of June 2nd, the PODS are populated
 - Began populating at the end of April; slow process
 - 19 inmates housed out as of June 2nd for classification reasons and the Commission of Correction insists that the PODS house minimum to medium-risk level inmates (minors, women, high-risk inmates cannot be housed in the PODS)
 - Question: Is 19 inmates being housed out reasonable or is it high? *Slightly high, but that can be contributed to various factors. Jail staff is constantly evaluating inmates to see who can be brought back based on classifications. The county budgeted for 30 inmates per month to be housed out, even when PODS in use.*
 - Question: From a structural standpoint, what is the life expectancy of the PODS? *The only component that would need replacement is the roof, every 10-15 years.*
 - Question: Why wouldn’t the PODS serve as a long-term solution, instead of building a new jail? *The Commission of Correction approved the PODS as a temporary solution only.*
 - Question: Commission of Correction frowns on using the PODS as a long-term solution? *Not ideal for long-term housing solution, meant to save money and provide temporary solution before long-term solution is established.*
- 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
 - At the May 18th meeting, Andrew O’Grady, Executive Director of Mental Health America of Dutchess County and EAG member, was invited to speak to the group, based on a suggestion at the May EAG meeting

- Andrew O’Grady expressed his approval of the RESTART program (in-jail, evidence-based programming for high-risk inmates); suggested that inmates that are not enrolled in the RESTART program would still have access to information and services
- Already programs in the jail for inmates
- SPW agreed with Andrew’s suggestions particularly the educational component
- Andrew felt the SPW could facilitate the referral process and have community agencies come in and assist with programming
- Andrew will have follow-up meeting with Bill Eckert, coordinator of the Dept. of Mental Hygiene jail-based team, to review programs and services currently offered and look for enhancements and/or additions
- Development of core programming almost complete
- Quality assurance and workflow committees work with SPW on reviewing design and flow of the programming in the jail and in the community
- SPW Consultant Kevin Warwick toured the jail with George Krom to evaluate programming in jail for launch of RESTART program
- Next SPW meeting will be on June 22nd
- Question: Will records be kept of inmates who choose not to participate in the RESTART program? *Assessments will be conducted to see if an individual will benefit from the program and they will be given the option to participate. Statistics will be kept of how many were eligible for programming, those who choose to participate, those who chose not to participate, and the outcomes of program participation.*
- Question: If there is no means of identifying the individuals that declined, how will you deal with individuals that may claim they were never offered services? *Records are identified by case number across all agencies.*
- DCJTCP Progress Update - Noel Knille, DPW Commissioner
 - Noel Knille with assistance from Ken Ricci from RicciGreeneAssociates (RGA) presented an overview of their discussions with the Internal Steering Committee, Jail Administrator George Krom and his staff, and Undersheriff Kirk Imperati and his staff on the proposed site plan options for the Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center
 - Site in Context: Three Frontages
 - Parker Avenue
 - Hamilton Street
 - CSX/Fallkill
 - Minimal enhancement to Parker Avenue due to state restrictions and not owned by county
 - Develop streetscape along Hamilton Street; enhance tree line
 - Develop along CSX/Fallkill—not owned by the county but working with RGA and Cooper Robertson to show what can be done to enhance the area
 - Concern over parking from residents on Hamilton Street—RGA has taken these concerns into consideration when developing site plans to maximize parking
 - Sections of the jail could be repurposed if inmate population decreases
 - Bob Mallory comment: Business owner across from proposed Sheriff’s Office site on Parker looking to redevelop his business into an eatery to serve that area; City of Poughkeepsie Common Council Bus Committee to provide city bus route for

transitional housing; going to and from the jail; green space is a great option for that area

- Focus on housing units to determine safety and security needs, adequate program and personal space; six concept designs reviewed to determine space needs
- Working with Jail Administrator George Krom and his staff on housing unit concepts; all housing units based on direct supervision
- Will continue to revise working model to best fit the needs of the jail staff
- All housing units are based on the concept of direct supervision, minimize inmate movement throughout building; inmate activities take place within the unit
- Taylor Building Adaptive Reuse Guideline: New Law Enforcement Building
- Question: Is the proposed adaptive reuse of the Taylor building and the area surrounding the building being monitored by the Sheriff's Office? *Yes, all concepts are being reviewed by Undersheriff Imperati and his staff.*
- Question: Will you reach out to the state to get involved to help with the enhancement of the area around the Fallkill and will a public meeting be held, including City of Poughkeepsie elected officials to discuss these site plans? *Yes, we will pursue the state to help with these plans to enhance the area and meetings will be scheduled in the future to discuss site plans.*
- Aim to get state funding for Parker Avenue and CSX/Fallkill development
- Proposed site plans will be presented at a future public hearing
- Steve Saland comment: Should be an effort for collaboration within community and with the City of Poughkeepsie to develop green space, allowing the City of Poughkeepsie to build on changes made

- Diversion Committee Update—Margaret Hirst, Acting Commissioner of the Department of Mental Hygiene spoke on behalf of Steve Miccio, CEO of PEOPLE, Inc. and Chairman of the CJC Diversion Committee
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training—brought in national expert to guide the county through the training, with assistance from local experts
 - Goal is to train law enforcement who have that first interaction with individuals dealing with mental issues on proper communication techniques
 - Broad range of topics to be offered-understanding the indicators of mental illness, communication skills, medications, substance abuse disorders, elderly and juvenile mental health issues, specific disorders
 - Role playing will be included as part of the training
 - Consumer panels including family members and individuals directly affected by mental illness will be a part of the training
 - 40 officers enrolled in training from a variety of jurisdictions, including corrections officers from the jail and the Office of Probation & Community Corrections
 - 40-hour training is scheduled for June 22-26
 - Will take several years to train all officers who are eligible
 - Goal is to train 25% of county and local law enforcement field officers, who are most likely to interact with individuals with mental health issues
 - “Train the Trainer” will reduce expense to the county for future trainings and provide for sustainability

- Crisis Stabilization and Wellness Center—23-hour stabilization unit, open 24/7/365
 - Serve as an alternative to incarceration; will allow law enforcement to bring individual to facility to receive services and treatment
 - Will serve both adults and youth
 - Co-locate mobile crisis team and 24-hour helpline service
 - Partnership of treatment providers with Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital of Westchester Medical Center, National Alliance on Mental Illness, Mental Health America of Dutchess County, PEOPLE, Inc., and DCFS
 - Working with Commissioner Knille to design and repurpose space at 230 North Road in the Town of Poughkeepsie
- Questions received via email and from previous meetings - Bill O'Neil, Deputy County Executive, Mary Ellen Still and Margaret Hirst
 - Questions & Answers can be viewed online here:
http://www.co.dutchess.ny.us/CountyGov/Departments/CriminalJusticeCouncil/EAG_06022015_questions.pdf
- Chairman Saland reminded those in attendance that they could speak with officials after the meeting if they had questions
- Chairman Saland suggested that the EAG forgo scheduling a meeting in July due to scheduling conflicts

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.