

Community Corrections Partnership (CCP)
Community Advisory Board (CAB)
Group Development and Annual Planning Meeting Day 2 - Minutes

February 8, 2020

Reentry Success Center

Taken by Jason Schwarz, Former CAB Chair

CAB Members Present: Henrissa Bassey, Lila Blanchard, Michael Pitts, Lisa Gregory, DeVonn Powers, Tara Cantu-Nishimoto, Frank Hancock, Jeri Cohen (arrived at 10 am)

CAB Member Absent: Chala Bonner

Public Present: Monica Carlisle, Donte Blue, Harry Thurston, Jason Schwarz, Patrice Guillory

Meeting commences 8:22 am

- Michael: Welcome and Check-in
- Lisa
 - Recap of values exercise on Day 1: Honesty, Trust, Compassion, Integrity
 - Reflections on Day 1
 - Two-year work plans for committees are in place
- Donte
 - Overview of Brown Act Requirements and training requirement
 - County agencies are under the Act (not the court)
 - BGO 96-hour notice requirement – physical and online posting
 - Decisions/votes need to be included on the minutes as part of the agenda packet
 - Don't meet with more than half of committee/subcommittee without a properly noticed public meeting
 - CAB online presence: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/4165>
 - ORJ online presence: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/6679>
 - Calling in to meetings is problematic – public needs access to where the call is made from
 - Membership outreach is important to ensure quorum of 7 members
 - Michael: Need to prioritize people that want to be here, are competent, and are committed to put the time in – vs. filling certain roles
 - More non-AB 109 affiliated people would be welcomed
 - Don't want to be in a position where you have to take anyone
 - CAB has a PowerPoint to help with member outreach
 - Lila: Formerly incarcerated would be desirable
- Patrice: CAB Purpose and Functions (9:00 am)
 - Review CAB Purpose and Functions handout dated 2/4/17
 - DeVonn – CAB should challenge assumptions and expand thinking on the role of criminal justice
 - Harry – ambassador program has been important to educate on what the board does and to get inputs
 - Lisa – improving access to information and transparency is important – help address mistrust that comes from lack of information

- Frank – ambassador program led people to get more involved when they are more informed
- Henrissa – what does “safeguard AB 109 revenues” mean?
- Patrice – Different purposes are interrelated
- Donte – Growing concern of AB 109 expenditures have been expanding which could face a reckoning if the total AB 109 budget diminishes
 - This is the first year where we budgeted more than funding coming in from the state
 - Has started to be more focus on fixed costs beyond salaries such as office supplies
- Patrice – Day 1 we discussed values, intent of AB 109, County structures
 - CCP is the governing body that recommends to PPC then BOS on how to distribute AB 109 funds
 - Review CAB Policy Platform (2018)
 - Do you see yourself and your values reflected in this?
 - We’ve been using this as a guidepost for CAB’s work
 - Henrissa – safety for all concept is important – need to get away from protecting ourselves from others – we’re one community
 - Lila – investing in what works stands out – is a challenge given power structures
 - Michael – what works fits with the idea that we should do what makes sense – requires figuring out what works and for how many people
 - Lisa – incarceration as a last resort – AB 109 mentions flash incarceration first which is in conflict with this statement
 - What works calls for hard decisions – do we change corrections staff to mental health staff?
 - Leaders are custodians of agencies – AB 109 funding is a windfall – they are invested in the status quo – they won’t give up resources of their own initiative without the community asking questions and pushing it
 - Are Purposes and Functions of CAB necessary for the CAB Pillars? Do they align? Is something missing?
 - Lila: Look at policy actions – reinvest in diversion and restorative justice – very specific action
 - Patrice: Purposes was developed so CAB can be more strategic year to year – provide a marker for the success of the work of CAB and the community
 - Lila: what does “ending money based justice” mean?
 - Donte – movement to take money out of justice as it fosters injustice and influences the process and agencies’ decisions
 - Patrice: Priorities were budgeting, strengthen ORJ, and expand early representation
 - Donte: background on early representation Richmond pilot and expansion county wide – substantial reduction in failures to appear – shows why better data is important (to show what works not only what isn’t working)

- Patrice: CAB may want to revisit the Purposes document – are these all still valid / priorities? Is anything missing?
- Jason/Patrice/Harry: Highlights from 2017, 2018, and 2019
- Lisa: Discuss FY 20-21 Policy and Budget Recommendations and Committee Workplans
 - Donte: Prioritization is important as reentry intersects with everything
 - DeVonn: Need to be careful to not overcommit
 - Henrissa/Lisa: Invite agencies to speak at CAB or sub committee meetings (and then report to the full CAB)
 - Donte: Other committees working on related issues
 - Monica: Include in agendas as many specifics about meetings as possible (ideally with attachments) for transparency and Brown Act purposes
 - Donte: Supplantation means you can't use state funds to replace what you're already doing – it's to add to what you're doing
 - AB 109 has to fall in the definition of “public safety services” (rent not included)
- Lisa: Discuss Sub Committee Work Plans
 - Michael: Don't worry, ORJ will give a lot of support to sub committees
 - Two year work plans exist for each committee (half way through)
 - Donte: Last 4 months of the year should work to prepare new 2 year work plans
 - Lisa: Survey was sent out to CAB members about preferences for committee membership to spread people out better
 - Committee membership and officer appointments reflected below
 - **VOTE** to confirm officers – motion by DeVonn, second by Henrissa, unanimous vote to approve (8-0)
 - Policy and Budget Committee
 - Michael as Vice Chair is automatically the Chair of the Policy and Budget Committee
 - Henrissa – Vice Chair
 - Chala –Minutes
 - Outreach and Community Engagement Committee
 - DeVonn - Chair
 - Frank – Vice Chair
 - Tara - Minutes
 - Programs and Services
 - Lisa - Chair
 - Lila – Vice Chair / Minutes
 - Jeri
 - Policy and Budget
 - Still need to identify gaps, develop recommendations, monitor county budgets
 - Programs and Services
 - Year 2 of a two year plan
 - Many activities are not in progress
 - Focus last year was on completing the transportation white paper
 - Restorative justice
 - Community courts
 - Donte: DA received funding to implement but may not yet be working

- Fines and fees
 - Donte: Currently in PPC's court with 90 days to report back on getting the information from the court
 - P&S Survey: a survey was done by the committee last year but still being worked on and will be sent out this year
 - Coordinate with Policy and Budget Committee
 - Memo to CCP and outreach campaign to support the initiative
 - Committees break out and discuss Chair/Vice Chair and notetaker roles plus meeting times
 - Lisa: There are templates for committee reports/minutes.
- Donte: In relation to challenges of CAB member retention, CAB may want to look at revising operating guidelines to make exceptions to allow members to extend 1 year or similar fix to ensure continuity and institutional knowledge
- Donte: It is an election year so keep that in mind in establishing priorities
- Lisa: Encourages people to attend others' committee meetings to be informed from time to time
- Jeri: Can County register inmates and help them exercise their right to vote?
 - Henrissa: Bay Area Legal Aid could potentially have a part
 - Frank: Men and Women of Purpose works on voter registration
 - Michael: Local measures impact most people more but don't energize people to vote
- Lisa:
 - Chala is on QAC
 - Michael is on Prop 47 LAC
 - Frank as Prop 47 LAC proxy
 - Henrissa – Smart Reentry Task Force
 - Reentry Success Center Steering Committee
 - Tara and Lila could have a conflict as Rubicon employees
 - Lisa: RSC is invaluable resource in the community
- Jason: Changes in the Landscape
 - Changes in BOS and PPC roles
- Lisa:
 - Thank you for everyone's efforts
 - Adjourned at 11:40 am