

WILLITS CENTER COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: October 6, 2009

PRESENT

HHSA, Social Services Branch: Jennifer Miller, Laura Stebbins, Cathy Vaughan. **WAG:** Cyndee Logan. **Guest:** Mason Gim, AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer

DISTRIBUTION

HHSA SSB: Pat Atkinson, Sandi Brown, Susan Era, Alice Langton-Sloan, Janet Lombard, Bryan Lowery, Judy Morgan, Jennifer Miller, Marla Quintana, Debra Reed, Laura Stebbins, Sue Trotter, Cathy Vaughan, Rebecca Wilson. **MPIC:** Pam Harpster, Debbi Purcell, Claudette Rhodes, John Ulvila. **DOR:** David Perry, Ernie Waugh. **JP:** David Barrett. **HHSA, CHB - WIC:** Jeannine Sandler. **HHSA, CHB - Nursing:** Jeannine Shaw. **HHSA, CHB - AODP:** Leslie Kirkpatrick. **HHSA, MHB:** Jenine Miller. **Mayacama:** Connie Diamond. **EDD:** Emelia Bartolomeu, Kay Nord. **WAG:** Cyndee Logan. **NCO:** Patty Bruder. **DSLCL:** Tanner Silva

Facilitator:

Notetaker:

Jennifer Miller

Laura Stebbins

WISC BUILDING AND ACRONYM LEGEND

221 Building: Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services Branch, (**HHSA-SSB**), Adult and Aging Services Division (**AAS**), Family and Children's Services Division (**FCS**), Employment and Family Assistance Services Division/CalWORKs Job Services (**EFAS/CJS**), Mendocino Private Industry Council (**MPIC**), Department of Rehabilitation (**DOR**), Juvenile Probation (**JP**), Employment Development Department (**EDD**)

221B Building: Health and Human Services Agency, Community Health Branch (**HHSA-CHB**) and Mental Health Branch (**HHSA-MHB**)

221C Building: Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services Branch (**HHSA-SSB**), Family & Children's Services Division, Family Resource Center, (**HHSA-FCS-FRC**)

221D Building: Willits Action Group (**WAG**), North Coast Opportunities (**NCO**)

CORRECTION TO MINUTES

- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes for September 1, 2009 were approved with no corrections.

AGENDA ITEMS ADD – AMEND - APPROVE

- Agenda was approved with no changes.

SAFETY ISSUES

- Recently an exterior door in Building B was not secured in the group room and someone attempted to enter the building after hours. The alarm sounded, law enforcement responded and Jeannine Shaw was contacted. Fortunately procedures to secure offices had already been implemented by AOD as a result of limited staffing and this prevented access to the entire building.

WISC FACILITY MAINTENANCE

- Jennifer reminded everyone that fall has arrived and we all need to be aware of acorns and branches on the ground.

Janitorial staff have been reminded of their responsibility to sweep daily.

INTERAGENCY REPORTS

- **WAG – Cyndee Logan** – Cyndee reported the RFP for the commercial kitchen at the Grange went out last Friday and proposals are due October 19th. They hope to have the kitchen open sometime in January. Once complete the public will be able to access the kitchen by filling out an application and an agreement. Prices for use of the kitchen have not yet been set. Installing the grain silos at the grange is also progressing.

WAG has a new VISTA volunteer who will be working with low income people in the area to help them setup gardens. He will also be setting up garden plots in the community garden that individuals can be responsible for. He also hopes to revitalize the lavender project for landscaping at the WISC and will be working with the Brookside and Willits High School Gardens.

Another project he is working on is the hydroponics tilapia project at Ukiah High School. This is a totally self-contained fish farm that grows vegetables. Hopefully once the prototype is done one can be started in Willits.

The Better Education and Nutrition in Schools (BEANS) project is also getting started. The BEANS coordinator may or may not be located at the WISC depending on where they live.

Jennifer asked about some compost material that is being dropped off outside the garden by a local landscaper. Cyndee didn't know anything about this so Jennifer will contact Ursula Parsch to make sure she is aware of this. Jennifer also asked Cyndee about the possibility of composting kitchen scrapes collected on site in the future. Cyndee said this would be great as long as the scraps don't contain any meat.

At this point the VISTA volunteer joined the group. Mason Gim introduced himself to the group and gave an overview of his background and the numerous projects he is planning for the year he is here.

- **SSB Children's Services – Jennifer Miller for Pat Atkinson** – Jennifer reported that a Social Worker from the Ukiah Emergency Response Unit has been coming to Willits on a two week rotation to support our Emergency Response unit.

Allocation letters are coming in from the state which will allow fiscal staff to determine if our budget is on target based on those numbers.

Jennifer reported that a Fall Festival is planned at the Family Center on October 27th from 2:00 to 4:00. There will be activities for the foster kids and parents to honor the fall season. The event is also a chance for Social Workers to make face-to-face contacts.

- **SSB Adult and Aging Services - Cathy Vaughan** – Cathy reported that they are still in a waiting mode and there are still no definite answers about the proposed cuts to IHSS.

COMMUNICATION FROM WISC WCC (WCC) TO MW PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL (MWPC)

- None needed.

COMMITTEES

- **WISC Events Committee** – Jennifer said that there no events currently planned. A soup and bread event will be planned and they hope to do a holiday craft fair

NEXT MEETING: November 3, 2009

1:30 – 3:00

**WISC 221 Building
Atlantic Conference Room**

Facilitator: Jennifer Miller

Note Taker: Laura Stebbins

Don't forget request for agenda items may be requested through Jennifer Miller via email at millerj@mcdss.org or 456-3705!

