

Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force

Meeting Summary, November 30, 2015
Whatcom County Courthouse, Rooms 513/514
311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham WA

Attendance

Present	Representing
Anderson, Angela	Whatcom County Public Defender
Bernstein, Jill, Co-Chair	Citizen Representative
Brubaker, Jeff	Bellingham Fire Department
Deacon, Anne	Whatcom County Human Services
Elfo, Bill	Whatcom County Sheriff
Finet, Dave	Opportunity Council
Gockley, Stephen	Whatcom Alliance for Health Advancement
Hammill, Daniel	Bellingham City Council
Heydrich, Alfred	Whatcom County Superior Court Commissioner
Hovenier, Jack, Co-Chair	Consumer Representative
Manering, Byron	Brigid Collins
Mann, Ken	Whatcom County Council Member
Moonwater	Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center
Morgan, Irene	Restorative Community Coalition
Peterson, Darlene	Bellingham Municipal Court
Phillips, Chris	PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center
Schroeder, Tyler	Whatcom County Executive Office
Walker, Kathy (proxy for Dave McEachran)	Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney
Alternates Present	
Garrett, Deborra (alternate)	Whatcom County Superior Court Judge
Parks, Jeff	Whatcom County Sheriff
Absent	
Finkbonner, Julie	Tribal Representative, Lummi
Gribbin, Susan	Consumer
Knapp, Michael	Small Cities Caucus, Ferndale PD
Kruse, Betsy	North Sound Mental Health Administration
Linville, Kelli	City of Bellingham, Mayor
Guest Speakers	
Mary Reed	Pioneer Human Services
Rochelle Rickman	Compass Health
Staff	
Smith, Veronica	

Meeting Summary

1. Call to Order

Jack Hovenier called the meeting to order and revised the order of the agenda.

2. Ken Mann

Ken Mann reported that the County Council's expectation is that the Task Force focus on the Triage Center, and that an additional month for the Phase One deliverable was acceptable to the Council. The Council wants updates on Task Force work.

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3. Task Force Ad Hoc Committees/Meeting Schedule

Ad Hoc Committee structure reviewed; Task Force members signed up and will schedule meetings after this meeting has concluded.

Task Force Meeting Schedule is as follows:

December 14, 2015, 9-11am, Whatcom County Courthouse, Rooms 513/514

January 11, 2016, 9-11am, Whatcom County Courthouse, Rooms 513/514

February 01, 2016, 9-11am, Whatcom County Courthouse, Rooms 513/514

4. Jail Tour Debrief

Jail Tour was useful and productive for the Task Force. A second tour will be arranged for those who could not attend the first.

5. Division Street Status

The eventual disposition of the Division Street facility was discussed.

6. Current Detox/Crisis Triage Facility

Mary Reed with Pioneer Human Services and Rochelle Rickman with Compass Health shared information with the Task Force regarding mental health (Compass) and detox services (Pioneer) at the current facility.

7. Crisis Stabilization Unit (2009)

Anne Deacon shared information with the Task Force regarding the 2009 plans for improvements to the Crisis Triage Facility, and current plans to increase bed utilization (by 12/31/2015).

8. RCW 10.31.110

There was a brief discussion regarding the possibilities presented by this RCW. Kathy Walker informed the Task Force that the Prosecutors office is working on a legal opinion regarding implementation.

9. Public Comment

None

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00am

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