

Drug Commission Meeting
October 10, 2017, 1:30-3:30pm
Downtown Courthouse, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO
Legislative Chambers
Minutes

Present:

James Witteman, Jr.
Lanna Ultican
Gene Morgan
Dr. Joseph Spalitto
Melesa Johnson
Keith Querry
Mark Bryant

Also Present:

Vince Ortega, COMBAT
Jaime Masters, Chief of Health Services
Michael Mansur, Prosecutor's Office
Chief Byron Price, Drug Task Force
Theresa Galvin, County Legislator
Brittany Brown, Legislative Aide
Matthew Grant, KCPD
Jean Peters Baker, Prosecutor
Sheriff Mike Sharp, Jackson County
Jay Haden, County Counselor's Office
Sgt. Allen Kintz, Blue Springs Community Youth and Outreach
Captain Jim Snyder, Blue Springs Police Dept.
Bob Muenz, Blue Springs Police Dept.
Kenneth Vick, Comprehensive Mental Health
Teesha Miller, PDMP
Rebecca Miller, Communications
Joan Dickey, COMBAT
Tammie Jordan, COMBAT
LaTasha Bunting, COMBAT

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM.

Mark Bryant motioned to approve the September minutes, Gene Morgan seconded, motion passed.

Sgt. Allen Kintz from Blue Springs Community and Youth Outreach briefly explained that the Blue Springs Community Youth Outreach is a public education program for youth and adults. Half of the program is for the schools and the other half is for adult education crime prevention. They have D.A.R.E. officers in the schools and 2 counselors.

Reports from Ex. Officio

Jean Peters Baker reported that there will be an Executive Director of COMBAT.

Matthew Grant from KCPD had nothing to report.

Chief Byron Price from the Drug Task Force had nothing to report.

Jaime Masters, Chief of Health Services, asked Chief Byron Price about highway interdiction of drugs. Chief Byron Price responded that they don't concentrate on highway interdiction. Matthew Grant mentioned that they have a project with the DEA and they try to do some interdiction on highways to see if they can get anywhere with it but they've had very little success. He also mentioned that it's hard to do in the KC region and that it's not a good use of their time or money.

Sheriff Mike Sharp from Jackson County reported how Deputy Sidney Anderson, who COMBAT funds with gathering intelligence from inmates within the jail, is overworked. Sheriff Mike Sharp reached out to KC Police Chief Rick Smith who assigned a detective to assist with gathering information on a temporary basis. Sheriff Mike Sharp would like to get COMBAT's blessing on getting another deputy to put in that area to help gather this information. At some point, he would like to give a presentation. Jim reminded the Drug Commissioners that Deputy Sidney Anderson did come and speak to them a couple months ago.

Old Business:

Selection of Committees and Members for Strategic Planning

Jim Witteman reported that Mark Bryant and he went over Goal #2: Ensure existing policies, procedures and practices are in alignment with organizational goals today. They read over Chapter 93 and Jim pointed out that it's not consistent. He will have a report at the next meeting. Keith reported that Dr. Kelvin Walls and he had not talked or met for Goal #3: Structure transparency and accountability in financial practices to accomplish set organization strategy. Lana Ultican needs to be added to Goal #4: Conduct a baseline review of the needs for substance abuse and violence related crimes in Jackson County with Dr. Joseph Spalitto. Gene Morgan has Goal #5: Gain an increased understanding of the incidence and prevalence of substance use/abuse, its impact and available Jackson County resources in the COMBAT database. There will be updates on these throughout the year.

Drug Commissioners Involvement in the RFP Process

Gene Morgan met with Keith Query, Melesa Johnson, and Jaime Masters last week to discuss how involved they would like to be in the RFP process. Jaime Masters took notes. They would like a summary of what's being requested, any problems with the provider, any thoughts on part of the staff that we should be aware of, and some history. Gene Morgan suggested 5 minute summations of their proposals. Jaime Masters said the RFP's will be posted on the COMBAT website and Jackson County website so there should be more applications this time. Keith Query asked that the Drug Commission have the information with regard to the proposals prior to the day of the meeting.

Jaime Masters asked the Drug Commissioners if they wanted to make the meeting a little longer since the summaries might take longer than 3 hours.

Gene Morgan asked if the proposals include a brief summary of what they're asking for. Yes.

Jim Witteman tabled that discussion until the next meeting and asked Jaime Masters to bring a copy of what the committee proposed so they can discuss it as a full commission to see if they agree on it or not and to take questions.

New Business:

Sgt. Allen Kintz, Blue Springs Community and Youth Outreach

Sgt. Allen Kintz reported that Blue Springs Community and Youth Outreach began in 1994 to create a one stop place with resources to help families who needed help with regard to crime, mental health, and other difficulties with kids. They started with D.A.R.E. in the elementary school, and then added the CLEEO (Campus Law Enforcement Education Office) to the middle school program. Their primary focus was originally on drugs but they've since added violence. Social media is one of their biggest problems. They have hired two crisis counselors, Kelly and Jessica. They also have a summer outreach program that offers services during the summer. There's their signs of suicide where counselors are there to talk to the kids. They are able to do program evaluations and can refer them to an agency.

They receive \$135,000 from COMBAT for a full-time D.A.R.E. officer who covers the elementary schools and two part-time officers in the middle school. Last year, they had 447 referrals. 148 were police referrals (they were arrested). If they complete the program, their charges go away. If they are not successful, they go to Family Court and could end up with a record. 140 were school referrals, 138 were family referrals, 21 were referred by Eastern Jackson County Youth Court. Out of the 447 referrals, 46 went straight to Family Court because they committed a felony or have been through the program before, and 401 were intakes for a full psych evaluation. 63 of the 401 intakes were cancelled and 338 were completed. One hundred of the completed intakes were referred to outside services.

Keith Query asked if some were repeat offenders. Sgt. Allen Kintz didn't have the numbers on that. Jamie Masters asked if he needed a mental health volunteer. Sgt. Allen Kintz stated that they're not allowed to do that due to legality and confidentiality. Lanna Ultican asked if it was a HIPPA violation and Sgt. Allen Kintz said maybe. Keith Query asked if there are funds available for uninsured. Sgt. Allen Kintz responded that they don't charge for anything and that they do not have money for getting outside resources.

Gene Morgan asked who paid for the counselors. The city pays for the counselors. Gene Morgan stated that some of these are symptoms of substance abuse, suicidal ideation, and mental health issues. He asked if the state helps out at all and Sgt. Allen Kintz said no.

Kenneth Vick, Comprehensive Mental Health

Comprehensive Mental Health is a community mental health agency. Every client gets a CSS (Community Support Specialist) and counselor. They work holistically. COMBAT funds the uninsured. No one walks in the door without getting help. They have youth services for mental health, outpatient services for mental health, psychiatrists, nurse practitioner, wellness coaching, and treatment specialists. Their outpatient services reach all ages and their youth program reaches ages 12 to 17 and 9 months. Comprehensive Mental Health has an addiction residential program for men and woman. They would like to add four more beds for men and 12 to 16 beds in another building for women and children. They currently have 14 beds for women and children and 12 beds for men.

Jim Witteman asked where the locations of their buildings were. They have several locations – one on 23rd Street, one on Noland, one at 58th and Swope, and they're waiting to sign off on the location at 75th and Holmes. Gene Morgan asked who the Executive Director was and Kenneth Vick responded Joy Copeland. Jim Witteman asked if they were connected to the crisis center. They are not but they work with the crisis center. Jean Peters Baker asked how long the stay for the residential program was. It is for 28-30 days. Jean Peters Baker asked why they were adding more beds. Their waiting list was the reason for adding more beds. It takes about two weeks to get people in right now, so there's a need. The Department of Mental Health is providing funding for adding more beds.

There was a brief discussion about the disconnect in getting wrap around services for treatment. Vince and Joan are setting up a small subcommittee meeting to address that problem. Kenneth Vick stated that it would be nice to get the police, probation and parole, Heartland Center for Behavioral Change, Comprehensive Mental Health, and ReDiscover to all sit down and ask what are the barriers and to start breaking those barriers down. Jim Witteman asked if this something the COMBAT staff can work towards. Joan Dickey mentioned that COMBAT doesn't always fund a large portion to these programs, so it still may be challenging. There was a brief discussion about there not being a standardized evaluation. Gene Morgan stated that when you're working with three or four bureaucracies it can be a challenge.

The Drug Commissioners decided they would like to see proposals after they have been scored. Keith Querry and Gene Morgan will do Treatment. Jim Witteman, Dr. Joseph Spalitto, and Mark Bryant will do Substance Abuse Prevention, Lana Ultican and Melesa Johnson will do Violence Prevention. Dr. Kelvin Walls will be a float. The Drug Commissioners decided that they wanted to review on the same day in different rooms.

Announcements:

COMBAT Awards Ceremony is on October 17th at 6:00 PM at Pennway Place at Studio Dan Meiers, 2500 West Pennway, Kansas City, MO.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.