



STATE OF WASHINGTON
SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

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SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD
Treatment, Discharge Planning, and Conditions of Release
Sub-Committee Meeting
July 14, 2020 1:00pm-3:00pm
Microsoft Teams Meeting

In Attendance: Leah Landon, Staff; Michael O'Connell, Chair; Jennifer Williams, DOC; Terrina Peterson, WASPC; Dan Yanisch, SCC; Sonja Hardenbrook, Snohomish Co. Public Defender; Jamie Weimer, WASPC; Jedd Pelander, DCYC-JR; Corey McNally, DOC; Daniel Davis, Pierce County Prosecutors Office; Devon Gibbs, OPD; Kelsey-anne Fung, Senate; John Hayes, SCC; Joshua Choate, AGO; Julia Newbold, 71.09 Social Worker; Aimee Martin, 71.09 Social Worker; Jennifer Ritchie, King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Michael Armes, Washington Voices; Shoshana Kehoe-Ehlers, OPD.

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Call to Order

Leah Landon (staff) called the meeting to order and discussed tips for participating in the virtual meeting. Meeting participants were asked to mute their microphones when not actively participating. The meeting was recorded and can be provided upon request. Leah introduced Michael O'Connell as the sub-committee Chair. Michael introduced himself and then Leah invited other sub-committee members to introduce themselves.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The sub-committee was asked to approve the meeting minutes from June 17, 2020.

MOTION 20-1-3: MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 17, 2020 AS WRITTEN.

Moved: Jennifer Williams

Seconded: Jedd Pelander

Passed: Unanimously

Abstained: None

Ground Rules

Leah reviewed Ground Rules with meeting participants. These ground rules were created to help guide participants' interactions with each other during the meetings.

Sub-Committee Timeline

Leah reviewed a timeline and work plan for the remaining sub-committee meetings and work to be completed.

Meeting Objectives

Objective 1: Presentation on HB 2851

- Jennifer Ritchie and Devon Gibbs provided an overview of [HB 2851](#) from the 2020 legislative session. The overview included background on the creation of the bill and the collaboration that took place to draft the bill. Parts of HB 2851 were also modeled off of RCW 71.05.
 - All stakeholder supported this bill, and the intention is to present this bill again in the upcoming legislative session.
 - Sub-committee members were given the opportunity to ask Jennifer and Devon questions throughout the presentation.

Objective 2: Overview of Current Discharge Planning

- Jennifer Williams presented a flow chart to the group that provided an overview of current discharge planning, including what is occurring prior to release at the SCC. This flow chart can be provided upon request.
 - Jennifer walked through the various swim lanes in the flow chart with members to review the current process.
 - Information was gathered through discussions with various stakeholders regarding their current processes.
 - Members were able to ask questions after the end of the presentation.

Objective 3: Discussion of Sticking Points

- Clients should be eligible for Bridging Transitions earlier.
 - Dr. Hayes mentioned with social distancing during the current pandemic they can only have 3 people per class. If they hear there is movement in a case though, they try to get them in as soon as possible. Some individuals are able to participate in the course more than once.
 - Aimee Martin added that access to teaching clients certain things in Bridging Transitions is difficult. For example, it would be nice for IT to be able to show clients how to use a phone. Aimee added that having those who have successfully released talk to those about to release would be helpful as well. This currently is not possible based on SCC access protocol.
 - Devon Gibbs added that having those who have been successfully unconditionally released talk to the course as well would be helpful as they currently only see those who return to the island.

- Dan Yanisch added if some of this could be done virtually, so no one would be required to come to the island in person.
 - Devon Gibbs added it would be useful to cover internet use during Bridging Transitions as well.
 - Sonja Hardenbrook said IT has a lot on their plate but an outside entity could be helpful.
- Clients should be provided additional information on life skills.
 - Jennifer Williams recommended that life skills classes or options would be helpful. These could include information on banking, debit cards, grocery shopping, cooking classes etc.
 - Aimee Martin said she had worked with Keith prior to his departure on getting some of these classes added, this work has stagnated since Keith left.
 - Dr. Hayes added that some courses are offered by the Pierce College Lab that addresses some of these issues, but there are areas that still need to be addressed.
- Clients are often missing documents (birth certificates, ID cards, GEDs, etc.) and these take a while to get.
 - Devon Gibbs said this is something that may be helpful to have done when a client first arrives so it isn't left for the end of the process.
- A lot of people in the system do not know who is supposed to be doing what.
 - Aimee Martin added that she often has clients coming to her for their ID, etc. it would be helpful for all parties to know who does what and how to follow it.
 - Jennifer Williams said she knows that Deborah Woodard is currently the person doing this at the SCC.
 - Julia added that the emails from the SCC she receives are asking her to do obtain the birth certificate.
 - Jennifer added that in her experience, this is done because OPD will pay for obtaining the birth certificate.
 - Julia Newbold reiterated that part of this is the timeframe, and she may be able to get things more quickly than the SCC. Julia said she has also run into a barrier when trying to get an ID, they need a certified copy of the birth certificate and this can be a barrier.
 - Leah Landon added that it may be helpful to develop an FAQ sheet to be used by residents and staff that details of who does what in the process.
 - Sonja Hardenbrook said this would be helpful, but it would also be helpful to know what is not allowed at the SCC as she had a client who received their ID and then it was confiscated as contraband and it took time to return it to them upon release.
 - Dr. Hayes said his understanding is that when these documents arrive Deborah Woodard puts them in a file and they are returned at discharge.
 - Sonja said this is ideal, but she has yet to see it happen.
- Jedd Pelander mentioned Executive Order 16-05 and how this allows DOC and JR to work with Department of Licensing to obtain IDs prior to release. It may be helpful for the SCC to be able to piggy back off of this.

- Dr. Hayes said that there is currently a process in place and they start the Bridging Transitions course with this. If the SCC had funding support to had discharge planners, then this process could start when someone first comes to the SCC.
- Michael O’Connell added that he is encouraged to hear the sense of people willing to work together on this and asked to include as a sticking point, whatever it is that prevents agencies from working together. Michael Armes had previously mentioned liability concerns, and this may have something to do with it. In addition, Michael added that state agencies spearheading programs that communities rally against is uncomfortable and part of the reason the defense is doing so much of the work is because they are expected to be the bad guys. State agencies are not in a hurry to put themselves in this role.
- CHAT Meetings
 - Sonja Hardenbrook said she has not been able to achieve CHAT meetings until a release is ordered, so clearer conditions on when a CHAT meeting can be ordered and who is eligible for a meeting to be called would be helpful.
- DSHS currently does not have a role in planning the LRA
 - Jennifer Williams asked how people think this should look, whether DSHS should be involved, or should they do the entire release plan.
 - Sonja Hardenbrook said that DSHS should be involved in this as they have been providing treatment for many years. Sonja added this may have something to do with liability concerns.

Next Steps

- Jennifer Williams will update the flow chart based on recommendations from sub-committee members and will provide those updates to the group.
- Leah asked members to send additional sticking points to her by 5:00pm on Thursday, July 16th.
- Leah also added that members may be asked to do additional research on sticking points to help formulate recommendations.
- Next Full Board meeting on July 16, 2020 from 9:00am-1:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD

 /s/
 Sub-Committee Chair
 Michael O’Connell

 July 28, 2020
 Date

