

Minutes for April 8, 2008 : Citizen Outreach Group

3rd floor Commissioners Conference Room
27 East Vermijo Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Proceedings were audio-taped and are the official record of the meeting.

Attendees:

Jan Doran, Sue Crozier, Bob Null, Gary Nance, Bernie Herpin, Joe Salute, Curtis Lorash, Lois Blackwell, and Jeri Lucien.

Other attendees:

Barbara Drake, Director, Dept. of Human Services; Commissioner Amy Lathen; Commissioner Sallie Clark; Bailey Miller, Public Communications Department; Imad Karaki, Director of Employee Benefits and Medical Services.

Meeting notes:

1. Chair Jan Doran called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
2. Roll was taken. Conrad Schaap was excused. Reginald Perry was absent.
5. Presentation by Barbara Drake, DHS Director –
Barbara Drake passed out information that she had presented to the County Commissioners for her evaluation. She reported that NACO was focusing on Child Protection this year. There is a DHS Open House at their offices at 105 North Spruce from 9 AM - Noon. She is in the process of compiling the 2007 DHS Annual Report. El Paso County had 10,400 of child abuse and neglect last year, only 300 fewer than Denver County; our funding is \$22 million less. Only 400 kids are in foster care; 300 are in institutional programs.
6. Minutes from March 11, 2008 were approved. Motion by Joe Salute; second by Bernie Herpin.
7. Website Committee Report -
Bernie Herpin reported Bob, Curt, Bailey, Julie Johnson and himself met with Mike and Steve from IT. The webpage design met with their approval. Curt reported that he had converted the Citizens College Power Point to pdf format as this is more accessible to most people. IT will have the COG pages on the county website in a few weeks.
8. Work Session Report -
Fran gave Jan a list of all the county boards so COG members may pick which to attend occasionally to be more visible in the community. We need to find out the meeting times and places.
Jan handed out the notes from the last work session including the new Mission Statement and Diagram of Information Flow which Bernie has incorporated on the business cards.
After discussion, motion by Lois Blackwell to amend the Bylaws to reflect our new Mission Statement and to increase the COG membership by 4 at-large members; second by Gary Nance. Motion passed.
Joe Salute and Sue Crozier were appointed to the Bylaws Committee to review the bylaws further before submitting changes to the BOCC for their approval after review by the county attorney.
It was discussed that since all county departments have 7 goals in the county strategic plan, that the COG's Strategic Plan incorporate these goals. Jan appointed a committee of Curtis, Jeri, Gary, and Bob to work with her on using the material from the two work sessions to develop our plan.

10. Mini-College –

This will be based on the Citizen Budget Oversight Committee (CBOC). Possibly dates were discussed; probably a full-day session on a Saturday or two Saturdays would be needed. The COG would invite past Citizen College graduates and then invite others depending on space.

Jan will be a CBOC voting member attending for Commissioner Clarke. The COG will have an ex-officio member. Curtis will be the primary and Joe Salute the alternate member.

CBOC will meet for a total of 24 hours, the dates and times are not set until the committee meets for the first time.

11. El Paso County Fair –

Commissioner Lathen talked about fun ways to promote the county fair. She stated that she had Commissioners Hisey and Williams on-board for a chicken catch. Sue has the vendor packet for the fair. This will be discussed in May and June.

9. Other Business –

Jan announced that we will meet at the Parks Building in Bear Creek Park at 21st Street and Rio Grande for the next few months due to the construction on the Costilla Parking Garage. Since the official record of our meetings is the recording, meetings will possibly be taped on a portable recorder.

Bernie showed drafts of the COG business cards for members to proofread. He will make some changes and send the new version out in an email.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 PM. The next regular meeting will be May 13, 2008 at Bear Creek Park.

Sue Crozier
Secretary