

Duplin County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
Minutes of the Meeting
April 6, 2021

Darryl McCaster, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the April 2021 meeting of the Duplin County JCPC.

Many thanks to Jaime Carr for arranging and delivering the food for the meeting.

Invocation was offered by Mayor Connors.

Present in person: AJ Connors, Jesse Dowe, Jason McGuirt, Darryl McCaster, Wendell Boykins, Jessica Harper, Erica Bostic, Ciaria Miller, Earlean Rivers and Nancy Hodges.

Present via WebEx: Melissa Reese, Leon Kea, Tiffany Smith, Juan Jiminez, Diane Herring, Candice Mathis, Nikita Newkirk, Lisa Robinson and Robert Turner.

Excused: George Futrelle

Quorum was confirmed.

A motion was made to adopt the March 2021 JCPC meeting minutes; motion – AJ Connors ; 2nd – Jesse Dowe; motion carried.

Old Business

- Approval of the Executive Summary, Funding Plan and Certification occurred at the Commissioners' meeting on Monday, April 5th. Commissioner Dowe confirmed approval of all.
- The full county plan will be provided by the May meeting.

New Business – Nominating committee appointed to include George Futrelle, Lance Turner, and Melissa Reese. A slate for officers, Chair and Vice-Chair, for 2021-22 is needed. It's anticipated that TrishaAnn will return as secretary later in the fiscal year.

Agency Reports

- Psychological Services – Juan Jiminez reported for the program; one admission for March that was successfully terminated, with an ending count of 0; total served ytd - 7. Two pending admissions for April; program should meet its target number.
- Teen Court – Ciaria Miller reported three referrals, 4 admissions with an ending count of 4. Referrals were for: possession of marijuana, drug paraphernalia and disorderly conduct. Two referrals pending for April.

- Restitution program report – provided by Nikita Newkirk; two new referrals between the ages of 14 – 16; six in the program with two admissions and two terminations left an ending count of six. Total served year to date - 16.
- Building Peace/Mentoring – for Building Peace, the report was provided by Diane Herring; one new referral, beginning count of seven, one admission and one termination with an ending count of 7.
- Mentoring report provided by Nikita Newkirk – serving 3 currently, with no new referrals.
- DNA Structured Learning – Earlean Rivers reported for the program; one new referral with an ending count of two; total served year to date, 4.

Other Announcements – Wendell Boykins, Chief Court Counselor was welcomed and reported the new Area Administrator for the Eastern Area is Russell Price who comes from District 26, Mecklenburg; hopefully, he'll be able to join us at an upcoming meeting. Nancy Hodges reminded the group that the legislature is moving forward with the separation of the Division of Juvenile Justice from Division of Adult Corrections; also, the Raise the Minimum Age of Jurisdiction (most likely from age 6 to age 10). Melissa Reese reported training opportunities and initiatives through Eastpointe. Please contact Melissa for more information. Dr. Kea reported that school is fully open on Option A and there is still a fully virtual option for those that prefer. Waiting on the Governor to sign H82 which would authorize summer programming. And the Alternative Center will move to 213 S. College in Warsaw; the new name will be Duplin County Schools Center of Opportunity. Ciaria Miller advised the group that there would be a virtual Teen Court Mock Trial coming up.

Closure and Next Meeting

A motion to adjourn was made by Jesse Dowe; 2nd Jason McGuirt; motion carried.

Next meeting is set for Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted:

Nancy Hodges, 4-6-2021