

Resource Council Meeting

Minutes

December 8 , 2006

1:00-2:30PM

Austin City Hall Boards and Commissions Room

Attendees

Mark Williams, David Balch, Steve Kinslow, Steve Swanson, Joene Grissom, Cathy Bonner, Karen Sonleitner, Ashton Cumberbatch, Barbara Cilley, Lee Leffingwell, David Evans, Mary Faria, Anne Harutunian, Mike Manor, Karen Dulaney Smith, Larry Brown (Trish Young)

Unable to Attend: Lee Manford, Greg Vincent, Mary Hensley, Jim Rigby, Sam Biscoe, Mary Ann Neely, Martha Martinez, Miriam Nisenbaum, Fred Gilliam, Dianne Mendoza, Beth Schlecter, Elisabeth Earle, Jennifer Kim, David Escamilla

Meeting Called By: Community Action Network
Facilitator: Mark Williams
Note Taker: Sam Woollard
Timekeeper: Fred Butler

Agenda Topics

1. Call to Order and Announcements

Mark Williams

Meeting called to order at 1:05pm by Chair, Mark Williams.

Announcements/Activities Related to CAN: None

Minutes: The November Resource Council minutes were accepted as presented

2. Citizens Communication

Community at Large

None

3. Strategic Issues

CAN Council Reports: Members were encouraged to review the written reports from the CAN Council meetings that are available on the CAN website.

Youth FAQ - Suzanne Hershey, Coordinator of the Ready by 21 Coalition, Bob Rutishauser, Chair of the Ready by 21 Coalition and Tim Eubanks, member of the Ready by 21 Coalition, reviewed the content of the Youth FAQ which includes a framework of creating desired outcomes for youth based on the elements: learning, working, thriving, connecting and leading

. Key findings include:

- The youth population is growing and becoming more disadvantaged
- Young people are contributing to the community, but need more opportunities to do so
- Young people want to work but need assistance and opportunities
- There is currently no centralized way for youth to have input into decisions

Recommendations:

1. Support the Creation of a Youth Council that can provide input to the local elected bodies about youth issues and bridge the gap between young people and elected officials: Currently there are about 20 young people who are interested in receiving training and serving on a Youth Council. The desire is that this Council become a formalized entity that creates an opportunity for young people to have an official advisory voice in decisions that affect them.
2. Support the Youth Services Mapping Project: The Ready by 21 Coalition has created a web-based mapping process that allows counselors and others to search for the social services that are offered by school or zip code. Suzanne demonstrated the tool.

Discussion: Members were interested in both the recommendations and commended the work of the group. It was suggested that funders of youth programs could require that services they fund input information into the Youth Services map. Karen Dulaney Smith offered to place an item on the agenda of the joint AISD, Travis County, and City of Austin quarterly sub-committee meeting, so that the Ready by 21 Coalition can share their progress and these projects.

MOTION: Members unanimously moved and approved the publication and distribution of the Youth FAQ.

CAN Legislative Agenda Options: David Balch led the group in a discussion about the opportunities and challenges of creating a CAN Legislative Agenda, as CAN has done for the past two legislative sessions. Members provided the

following feedback to be considered :

Opportunity:

- Consider partnering with the Center for Public Policy Priorities
- Provide education to the legislature about the impact of unfounded mandates and policy decisions
- Identify the key issues for CAN partners and identify opportunities to align and work with the Partners' lobbyists to advocate and advise
- Settle on one or two priorities that the combined CAN resources could impact
- Review the components of the Lieutenant Governor's Putting Children First agenda and identify opportunities for synergy
- Monitor the funding mechanisms and appropriations process
- Monitor legislation about revenue and appraisal caps and educate legislators about challenges they may impose on local communities
- Meet with the Travis County delegation to provide CAN health and human services information, ask for their legislative priorities, offer to provide information and offer to assist with putting a "face" on an issue

Challenge:

- It's difficult to react to changing political decisions with monthly meetings
- Takes staff time to coordinate information and responses

Considerations:

- Suggest that legislation considered addresses the following: return on investment, focus on self sufficiency, and the impact of poverty

MOTION: Members moved and approved a request to the Executive Committee to review the CAN Partner Legislative Agendas and identify 1-3 specific areas for which CAN will educate legislators and monitor legislation

RESOURCE COUNCIL WORKPLAN: Members reviewed the sub-committee's proposal for CAN goals for 2007 and made some slight revisions so that the 2007 CAN Goals are:

1. Create new multi-dimensional linkages to achieve social equity
2. Enhance informing the community about the issues
3. Strengthen CAN Partners' capacity to champion the issues

Members had a full discussion about the desire to impact social equity and address the underlying issues that our community faces, such as race relations. Members expressed a desire to encourage the Issue Area Groups and other CAN groups to identify ways in which they impact social equity. Barbara Cilley reported that she met with Pat Wong from the LBJ school and he is interested in working with CAN on addressing Return on Investment.

Executive Director Search: Mark Williams reported that the search began with 35 candidates which has been narrowed to 10 candidates for phone screenings. This pool will be further narrowed for the face to face interviews. It is anticipated that there will be an offer in place so that there can be some transition time between Fred and the new Executive Director.

Vice-Chair: David Escamilla was nominated by the Executive Committee to be the Vice-Chair of the CAN Resource Council in 2007. *Motion: The CAN Resource Council moved and approved the nomination of David Escamilla as Vice-Chair of the Resource Council in 2007.*

CAN Budget: Mark Williams reviewed the proposed 2007 CAN budget. *Motion: The CAN Resource Council moved and approved the 2007CAN Budget.*

4. Executive Director's Comments

Fred Butler

Due to lack of time, there was no report

2:30PM

Adjourn

Mark Williams

Next meeting: Friday January 12, 2007