

**DOWNTOWN AUSTIN COMMUNITY COURT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 21, 2011
7:30AM
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, ROOM 1101
CITY HALL**

Advisory Members Present:

Marshall Jones—DAA
Lori Renteria--East Cesar Chavez N.A
Tim Miles, Foundation Communities
William Kelly—Univ. of Texas
Will Hancock—Lifeworks

Advisory Members Absent:

Bruce Mills

Guest Members Present:

Lewis Leff, Council Member Riley's Office
Bill Brice, DAA
Charlie Betts, DAA
Darla Gay, DA's Office
Beth Keeler, DACC Intern
Gemma Mears, DACC Intern

Staff Members Present

Pete Valdez, Court Administrator
Judge Michael Coffey
Melanie Fletcher, Court Operations
Supervisor
Jennifer Abdallah, Court Operations
Supervisor
Kim Capobres, Case Manager
Taylor Seyer, Case Manager

I. Call meeting to order.

- **Opening remarks and introductions.**

Marshall Jones called the meeting to order at 7:35 am. Staff and Advisory members introduced themselves.

- **Approval of minutes from last meeting July 20, 2011.**

Marshall asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2011 meeting. Tim Miles so moved, Bill Kelly seconded. All approved.

II. Citizen Communication

None.

III. Presentation, discussion, and action on the following items:

- a. Targeted Case Management Progress Report. Jennifer Abdallah provided an update on the progress of the Targeted Case Management Program, begun in December 2010/January 2011. Billy Kelly stated the data collection working group will look at the results and make recommendations for further data collection. Bill Kelly asked Lewis Leff about housing collaborations and Lewis gave an update on collaboration with the City's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Department. Darla Gay provided information about VASH housing vouchers for veterans.
- b. UT Intern Data Collection Project. Jennifer Abdallah introduced UT Social Work Interns Beth Keeler and Gemma Mears and stated they would be supplementing

- regular case management. Jennifer explained that staff will pursue either converting the Short Form Assessment to digital format and using for all homeless defendants, or searching HMIS to determine if it contains an appropriate assessment. Bill Kelly said the data collection working group will also make a recommendation in this area.
- c. Update on Project Recovery. Pete Valdez provided an update on Project Recovery. Travis County has approved funding and the contract is on City Council agenda for 9-22-11. Pete described program improvements in the new contract.
 - d. Update on Partnership Housing. Pete Valdez provided an update on the Partnership Housing project between DACC, DAA, Caritas and Foundation Communities. Pete said he has asked Caritas to coordinate some planning meetings in advance of January 2012, when some of the units will become available. Pete said criminal history as a housing barrier has been a concern and DACC created a report of the criminal histories of the top 20 Frequent Offenders at the request of Bill Brice with DAA. Tim Miles said there will be 10 units available in existing Foundation Communities properties and 10 units will be provided in their new facility, planned opening March-April 2012.
 - e. Non-agenda items
 - Marshall Jones said ECHO is close to hiring a new Executive Director. The 100,000 Homes Campaign Count is coming up soon and ECHO has hired Jessie Aric to coordinate the count.
 - Bill Kelly said he recently met with Lone Star Circle of Care, a healthcare provider that is interested in working with Community Court clients. He will provide contact information a Greg Jetson.
 - Marshall Jones asked if DACC still has a rotating prosecutor. Judge Coffey said we are still rotating but that Andy Garbe was able to stay for a few months and enjoyed the work. Lori asked for an agenda item for the next meeting, that the Advisory lobby City Council to make a permanent prosecutor appointment. Marshall Jones named himself a second sponsor for this item on the next agenda.
 - Marshall Jones asked for member preference regarding the last meeting of the year and there was interest in moving the meeting to October 19 or 26. Jennifer Abdallah will confirm room availability with the City Clerk's office and let members know. At that meeting the board will set its calendar for 2012 and elect new officers. Bill Kelly nominated Marshall Jones for Chair and stated that Bruce Mills seconded. Marshall instructed members to send nominations to Jennifer Abdallah before the next meeting, and nominations can also be taken at the meeting.

IV. No Executive Session held.

V. The next meeting was set for October 19, 2011 at City Hall, pending confirmation of room availability.

VI. Adjourned.

Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn. Motioned by Lori Renteria. Seconded by Tim Miles. Adjourned at 8:50 am.