

**DOWNTOWN AUSTIN COMMUNITY COURT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2012
7:30AM
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, ROOM 1101
CITY HALL**

Advisory Members Present:

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

Advisory Members Absent:

Bruce Mills

Guest Members Present:

Michael McDonald, Deputy City Manager
Anne Morgan, Deputy City Attorney
Bill Brice, DAA
Dawn Handley, ATCIC
Abraham Minjarez, ATCIC
Katherine Krasin, ATCIC
Darla Gay, DA's Office
Charlie Betts, DAA
Andy Garbe, City Attorney
Ed Van Eenoo, Budget Office
Sandra Alvarado, Budget Office
Susan Gehring,

Staff Members Present

Pete Valdez, Court Administrator
Judge Michael Coffey
Melanie Fletcher, Court Operations
Supervisor
Martha Chapa, Administrative Specialist
Taylor Seyer, Case Manager
Jordan Luminais, Court Clerk Lead
Kim Capobres, Case Manager

I. Call meeting to order.

- **Opening remarks and introductions.**
Meeting called to order at 7:31am.

Approval of minutes from last meeting March 23, 2012.

Motion for approval by Tim Miles. Seconded by Bill Kelly.

II. Citizen Communication

No citizen communication.

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

- a. Community Court Prosecutor Process Discussions. Deputy City Manager, Michael McDonald was present with Anne Morgan, Deputy City Attorney. Per Anne Morgan, this request poses an operational concern for the City Attorney's office because of turnover; however, the City Attorney's Office is committed to making this

recommendation work. Marshall outlined the reasons why a permanent prosecutor is needed – building trust and the fact that Community Court works with a specific population. Bill Kelly agreed with Marshall and added that the Community Court should not be a training ground for prosecutors. Bill Brice stated that consistency in the court is a model throughout other Community Courts. Judge Coffey advocated for a permanent prosecutor and encouraged the City Attorney's Office to think about this recommendation. Charlie Betts expressed his opposition to a rotating prosecutor. Michael McDonald requested that the Advisory allow some time for the City Attorney's Office to discuss.

- b. Corporate Budget Presentation FY13. Ed Van Eenoo provided a big picture overview of the City of Austin's budget process.
- c. DACC FY 13 Budget. Pete Valdez highlighted the major accomplishments of the Community Court and elaborated on unmet needs of the Community Court and the importance of each unmet need.
- d. Road to Recovery (aka Project Recovery) Restructuring Presentation. Abraham Minjarez, Associate Director for Behavioral Health Services, introduced Dawn Handley, Director, Adult Behavioral Health Systems and Katherine Krasin, Road to Recovery Program Manager. Abraham spoke of Project Recovery's treatment philosophy and provided an organizational chart with employees' credentials. Abraham also summarized the aftercare services, aftercare group, active outreach, face to face meetings, phone contact and staffing of individuals' progress between the Community Court and the Project Recovery Team for 30, 60 and 90 days of treatment. Bill Kelly asked for clarification on what was different from the previous aftercare services. Abraham stated that Project Recovery now has a program manager and the implementation of coordinating with the Community Court case management team. Katherine Krasin provided what a typical week would look like for a client in aftercare to the Advisory Committee.
- e. ESG and PHS funding. Susan Gehring informed the Advisory Committee that we have received additional money via the HEARTH Act which created the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and the City of Austin will continue to receive this grant. Susan discussed the Rapid Rehousing two new staff members will provide these services to frequent users of the system including the Community Court and the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH). The ESG grant requires homeless participation. Marshall stated that the Advisory Committee would be exploring options to satisfy this requirement.

IV. No Executive Session held.

V. The next meeting was set for July 20, 2012 at City Hall. Staff will include all 2012 upcoming meeting dates on future agendas.

VI. Adjourned.

Motion to adjourn by Marshall Jones. So move by Bill Kelly. Meeting adjourned 9:06am.