



FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: Washington Correction Center (WCC)/Teleconference

Date: SATURDAY DECEMBER 9, 2023 Time: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Teleconference details: Microsoft TEAMS +1 253-372-2181, PHONE Conference ID: 432 946 336#_

MEETING ATTENDEES

Department/facility co-chair: Theresa Cohn - CPM Family co-chair: Kristel Monte

Facility/council secretary: Jessica Nitz in place of Jennifer Allmendinger

Family secretary, if applicable: Vacant


Members present: Theresa Cohn (DOC), Bill Swain (DOC), Jay Jackson (DOC), Jessica Nitz (DOC) Sgt. Reeves (DOC), Wendy Schindler, Curt Schindler, Jasmine Bernardez

Via TEAMS – LFC members – Carol Welch, Felix D’Allesandro, Kristel Monte

Non-council member attendees: _____

AGENDA		
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Topic	Discussion/Key Points	Next Steps
Elections	Felix D’Allesandro for WCC LFC Statewide Representative Kristel Monte for Family Co-Chair	Allmendinger will send out information on necessary instruction, payments and or paperwork to be informed of. Cohn checked with Meghan Longan to see if she is still interested in the other position available and she has accepted and will also be provided necessary information.
Securus	Wasted money, lack of good service, both technically and no customer service	https://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/incarceration/technology-provider.htm
EFV	Clothing Rules – Consistency	Dress Code Policy specifically states: To ensure the safety of all individuals if an emergency arises, clothing that resembles state issued clothing (e.g., red shirts, khaki pants, gray sweatpants, and sweatshirts) is not allowed. There is nothing in the policy that states you cannot wear tan or blue shirts.

		<p>Discretion will be used by staff for red shirts with writing on them. If you are questioning it, just ask.</p> <p>Staff have been addressed to maintain and follow dress code.</p>  <p>Visitor Guidelines.pdf</p>
	<p>What is the time frame for receiving EFV confirmation? What is the longest it should take?</p>	<p>The Sergeant agreed to communicate this to the counselor soon as it was approved. The schedule will be completed by the end of the month when approved for an EFV. The counselor should then inform the family member.</p> <p>Washington Corrections Center - Extended Family Visiting.pdf - All Documents (sharepoint.com)</p>
	<p>Thank you to Cohn for the changes in the electronics available in the EFVs.</p> <p>Q: Can small objects be separated from the main area that could be a hazard for small children?</p>	<p>If you have kid friendly games you are interested in, let Cohn know. She may be able to purchase them.</p> <p>Swing sets have been installed.</p> <p>Cohn will be requesting the hood fans to be replaced.</p> <p>New crib sheets will be ordered. Families do not need to buy or bring their own.</p> <p>A: It is the responsibility of who was last in the EFV to put things back where they belong.</p> <p>Consumables cannot be left for the next family to use in the EFV. They will all be thrown away if left due to safety concerns. This includes: spices, microwave popcorn, etc. Families will need to bring in their own consumables each time.</p> <p>A: Cohn will look into this.</p>

	Q. Can they get smaller glasses and a steamer for tamales?	
Evergreen Vending	<p>Update</p> <p>Family members have been told in the past that they were given what was left.</p> <p>Q: Can they better plan the items, so they aren't just given what is left?</p>	<p>Evergreen Vending is still the same on fill days. The current scheduled is: they fill on Fridays, Sundays, and Mondays when they have staffing.</p> <p>They are unable to repair broken machines when one breaks down. They are in the final process of a new system and the machines currently in use are not replaceable due to they are no longer in service in most areas and soon to be transitioned out of service when new system comes in.</p> <p>Vending machines are filled in the morning by Evergreen Vending but items are possibly consumed on visiting days by the end of that same day.</p> <p>If concerns come up, let us know and we can pass them on.</p> <p>A: Cohn inform the Evergreen Vending supervisor of what was said to the family member by a delivery person regarding refill stock for machines.</p>
Visiting Room	Big TV for football games and such	<p>The visiting room as we all know is for family atmosphere. Not all want to listen or watch the games. The TV is not hooked to a cable system or satellite it is for training and videos during events.</p> <p>There were video games available, but the games, TVs, and remotes have been sabotaged or gone missing.</p>
	Can a 12-month calendar be posted in the visit room?	Yes, Cohn will order one.

	Can coffee be purchased and made available in the visit room free to visitors?	Cohn has been told no regarding this in the past but will check again. Coffee is available from the vending machines.
Toilet Tissue	Any way to compromise on the toilet tissue issue? Could they have 2 instead of 1 in their possession because often the foyer is closed. I understand not wanting them to have 5 or more in their room, but having to run out before being handed a new roll seems like it could turn into a problem.	There is no need for this as the bathrooms have toilet paper in them. There is plenty on-site for the porter and to retrieve more. As per the handbook and rules provided to all individuals in orientation (e.g., Video visits, Orientation, kiosk use), however porters have plenty of time to stock the restrooms. Cohn verified that there was no issue with toilet tissue being supplied and there is not an issue with this on the TC units. Toilet Tissue costs have significantly decreased. People were not using toilet tissue for what it was intended.

DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS

State Family Council Meeting Topics	It was recommended to know who the Health Service Managers are at your facility. Q: Who is the HSM at WCC? Dr. Rainier talked about a mental health initiative. Q: What does WCC know about this?	A: Kathy Reninger until the end of the year and Jessica Caldwell A: Cohn is not aware of anything affecting WCC.
	They were told that they are having a big problem with contraband. Q: How big of a problem is this at WCC? Q: Can they get statistics on this at WCC?	A: Our issues tend to be in the VR and Mailroom. A: Cohn will ask IIU if they have any information that can be shared.

Family Events	<p>Q: Can they get notified of the family events?</p> <p>Q: Can they not do events on LFC days?</p>	<p>A: They are listed on SharePoint.</p> <p>Sunday's event was a reschedule and did not get added, but today's event is on there.</p> <p>This is also where it will show you what days visiting is closed.</p> <p>Allmendinger can send out the 2024 schedule.</p> <p>A: No, they are not able to do that.</p>
LFC Meeting Changes/Updates	They are not getting notified of rescheduled meetings	If you are not on the email list, let Cohn or Allmendinger know, and they will add you to the list.
Christmas Cards	<p>Q: Can you post on the website what the rules are with sending Christmas cards?</p> <p>Exp: no glitter</p>	A: Cohn will check with the mail room on doing this.
IIBF	Jackson will have November's report and send out.	

Next meeting location: PLPC1 Date: February 10, 2024 Time: 9:00 am

Comments: _____

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