



FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: MCCCW via Microsoft Teams Date: 12-21-23 Time: 1700

Teleconference details: _____

MEETING ATTENDEES

Arminda Miller
 Department/facility co-chair _____ Family co-chair _____

Theresa Boyer
 Facility/council secretary _____ Family secretary, if applicable _____

Members present: _____

Non-council member attendees: Vanessa Whitford 786241, Tonie Williams-Irby 350955, Megan Pirie, Daniela Arnhold, Kathleen Carlson, Courtney, Erika Brown, Carol Dick, Naemah Webb

AGENDA

Old business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps

New business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Vending Machines	Carol – Vending machines are inconsistent in operating. The last time she visited the cold machine with hamburgers was working, but the latte machine was not. Courtney-the cold machine had been down but has been fixed. Theresa noticed there is an “out of order” sign on the coffee machine. Myndi asked if the machines are well stocked – yes, they are.	Courtney will send staff a reminder to notify sergeant ASAP when they notice or are told a machine is not working. Courtney will send an email out to the sergeants to have it repaired.
Heat Status - Superintendent	The entire Mission Unit Building is heated by a boiler (original inception). This boiler was replaced this past summer. It was converted from diesel to propane. There were problems when initiated. A contractor was working for the past 2 weeks on some of the issues, but now requires another contractor to	Myndi reiterated how she will keep pushing for more education at Mission Creek.

	<p>come. Both need to be in place at the same time. They are both scheduled to be here the first week in January. The room will be very warm until then, but staff can open upper windows.</p> <p>Gym – The pilot light is an issue. The project is on the Readylist.</p> <p>Gold – The heating unit is stable. The environmental controls, which are old and needing replaced, are waiting for Capital Project. The issue is there are two sides, the software and mechanical. Both sides are not “speaking” the same language.</p> <p>Both projects are anticipated to be completed by the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2024). In the meantime, there is auxiliary heat available when needed.</p>	
<p>Visiting Hours</p>	<p>The facility is funded for the size and staffing. MCCCW is not funded for visit staff. We are funded for additional staff on 3rd shift that is able to help with visiting. MCCCW would like to explore funding for a visit position.</p> <p>Carol – concerned for family and their safety and cultural issues while traveling. They also transport a young child.</p>	<p>Myndi - The Women’s Prison Division will be looking at this. Megan- suggested to look at the ride share program and also for lodging. This information can be found on the DOC public website.</p>
<p>Educational Opportunities</p>	<p>TCC currently provides the educational opportunities at MCCCW. Recently, University Washington, Tacoma, has reached out and wants to have a conversation with the women to see what options may exist for them.</p> <p>Sustainability Prison Project - we have a partnership with them. They usually come up with ideas and bring them to us.</p> <p>Robbins – TCC Update – Business class will not be offered for the winter quarter. A</p>	

	<p>English 101 college readiness class will be offered. Also, Highschool 21/GED. The college is trying to focus on the highest needs.</p> <p>Megan – With Pell grants becoming available, she is anticipating more colleges seeking prisons out.</p> <p>Williams-Irby – she is friends with someone at FEPPS. They are trying to bring a bachelor's program here.</p> <p>Naeemah – wants to advocate for more higher education. Wants loved one to become educated and a productive citizen when released.</p>	
<p>Washington Way Contact Officer– Captain Arnhold</p>	<p>We are in the process of developing this. They would sit with the I/I to see what their concerns are, what issues they have other than custody level. This helps both the incarcerated and staff to how to act and learn from each other. When we share personal information with each other it helps to empathize with each other.</p> <p>Williams-Irby – Will this contact person be available when incarcerated are released? We don't know yet but would like to. Mission Creek is still developing the program, but policy limits some things and will need to be changed prior to implementing some things.</p>	
<p>Program Updates – Courtney</p>	<p>Recent programs started: Book club, financial literacy and writing workshop series.</p> <p>Paint & Sip (how do you see yourself) went well. Pictures will be hung in the dining hall.</p> <p>Running club starts next month.</p> <p>Working with Toastmasters and the local fire department for CPR classes.</p>	
<p>Naeemah</p>	<p>Voiced her concern for loved one receiving racial slurs. Asked</p>	<p>Myndi - There is the resolution process here at the facility to</p>

	<p>what avenues there are to elevate this concern. Also concerned for her to stand on her rights without fear of retaliation.</p> <p>Carol has had the same issues brought to her and thanked the superintendent for addressing them.</p>	<p>utilize. She can also reach out to the Office of Correctional Ombuds. She also asked Naeemah to call her and discuss.</p>
<p>Incarcerated Events – CPPC Brown</p>	<p>The Winter Event went well. It was a family/child centered event with food, movie, music and sing-along. The moms chose a gift to wrap for the children. Santa handed them out.</p> <p>The next event is scheduled for March. All events are posted online for the entire year.</p>	

Roundtable open discussion

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
<p>Whitford –</p>	<p>Do we have more info on the mother workshop? Robbins has a meeting 1/3/24 and will update then.</p> <p>Some of the rooms seem to very cold – There are temp readers to take the temperature. Logs are being kept ensuring we are within our guidelines. Let CO Presley know so she can take temperature.</p> <p>Spoke at the statewide meeting for Native Americans. Was able to speak about what was on her heart and what is missing. She felt like she was heard.</p> <p>Will be teaching Wellbriety to Gold unit using her traditions to work the program.</p>	<p>As a reminder, the cells at the end of the tiers are at the end of the system and do run a bit cooler.</p>
<p>Williams-Irby</p>	<p>The unit has been a funk lately. Enjoyed putting up the decorations to make the unit feel more like home. Her job is to make her community be more positive.</p> <p>When the heat is being fixed, will they be moved out of the unit? There are no plans at this time.</p>	

	While working in the visit room noticed there are no doll houses or barbies, can family send these in through Amazon?	There is funding for the visit room. The CPM will place an order.
Health Services – Casey	Organizing the clinic to clean up and paint to be more inviting. We lost our contract mental health staff. Will continue to look for a replacement. WCCW and HQ are aware and available to help with coverage. Question – If someone is having a mental health crisis, are they able to go back to WCCW for help?	If there is no MH on-site there is a off duty staff can call to see if someone should/needs to go to WCCW.
Theresa		Will send out information about reimbursement for work on the LFC and information on the SFC.

Next meeting location: Microsoft Teams Date: 2/15/24 Time: 1700

Comments: Meeting closed at 6:30 p.m.

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