



## Commission Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 17, 2010

Vice Chairman Kenneth Allen called the Commission Board Meeting to order on Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at 10:17 am in the Indiana Government Center South, Conference room 4.

### **Roll Call**

Kenneth Allen, Tim Brown, Laura Heinrich, Virgil Madden, Elijah Neal, Shanida Sharp-Byrnes, Adrienne Shields, Lynn Smith, Dr. Vernon Smith (via conference call), Sen. Greg Taylor, Wayne Wellington

**Guest** – Shatana Nixon w/ Division of Family Resources (DFR) Comptroller's Office, Leah Cain (intern) & Caz Day w/ Neighbors Organized To Assist Humanity (NOAH)

**Staff** – James Garrett Jr., Malika Mays

### **Prayer**

Senator Greg Taylor

### **Adoption of Minutes**

Senator Greg Taylor moved to accept the October 15, 2010 minutes; Laura Heinrich seconded the motion; minutes were approved unanimously

### **Financial Report**

Shatana Nixon briefly went over the budget summary. The standard operational expenditures were made from the Appropriations (1000) account; total operational expenditures for the month were \$8,420.83. There were no expenditures from the Donations (6000) account in the month of October. The Donations (6000) account remaining balance is \$72,848.77, which includes the \$206.43 interest earned thus far for the 2011 SFY. \$118.30 was the amount of interest earned for the 2010 SFY. Ms. Nixon informed Commissioners that the reason for investing our funds into CD's (Certificate of Deposit) is from the request to stay at a short maturity for easy and quick access to funding. She also says we've had four 90-day investment periods with the funds provided from our Donations (6000) account. Dr. Smith would like to know the interest rates that we have received; Ms. Nixon says it depends on the current market rate at the time of investment; she will find out the interest rates and report back to the board. Tim Brown moved to accept the financial report; Laura Heinrich seconded the motion; financial report was approved unanimously.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Garrett briefly went over his report and provided Commissioners with a copy for their review. He shared information about his meeting with the Gary Local Commission. Their commission is planning to host an expungement day for Gary. Mr. Garrett expressed to them that this type of event should include the entire county; he also says they should speak with the Michigan City Local Commission, as they are also exploring the idea of holding a similar event. The suggestion was made to host two separate events as the Clerk of each respective county would have to be the lead person in this effort. But from a planning and coordinating perspective the two commissions working together may be able to ensure that the event in both counties can be well orchestrated and to maximize the benefit for black males. Senator Taylor feels this is a statewide issue and would like to find out what they come up with and get some ideas in order to get a unified effort to make this work statewide. He says the state of Iowa has an expungement law; he will have his staff look up that law; he will also share his

findings on expungement bills presented in Indiana. Commissioner Brown feels we are going about this the hard way. He says taking an incentive approach to hire ex-offenders instead of an expungement approach is the better way to go. Senator Taylor says he would be more than happy to speak with his colleagues about this and come up with something. He wants to be sure that if something does get presented in regards to this matter that he will have the Commissions support, and be ready to testify on its behalf. Commissioner Madden says this should be a tabled item for further discussion. Senator Taylor moved to accept the executive director's report; Tim Brown seconded the motion; the executive directors' report was approved unanimously.

## **Old Business**

### ***Annual Report 2009-2010 Update and Draft Review***

Mr. Garrett and Ms. Hutchings held a meeting to go over the second round of edits and modifications to the annual report. He provided commissioners with a copy of the revised recommendations page and requested they send back all comments and modifications to the commission office before the close of business on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Smith briefly went over his modifications, and says the suggestions given have not been addressed. Mr. Garrett says a draft copy of the annual report will also be sent to them electronically for review.

### ***Sub-committee Update***

Commissioner Allen asked about an update on the sub-committees. Mr. Garrett says Ms. Mays has been working to get the conference calls set up with no luck, but will continue to work on this. Dr. Smith says we previously talked about using an hour of the board meeting to do sub-committee work. Members briefly discussed this item; Senator Taylor suggested we make accurate times on our agenda for each item and stick to it. He made a motion to hold our sub-committee meetings on the same day as our board meetings; we will hold our board meeting during the first hour, and then hold the sub-committee meetings during the second half; Wayne Wellington seconded; the motion was approved and passed unanimously. Commissioner Madden asked Mr. Garrett to send commissioners the document containing information about the list of sub-committee assignments.

## **New Business**

### ***Update on PEW Research Center Justice Reinvestment Council of State Government Justice Center Criminal Code Revision Project***

Mr. Garrett informed commissioners that the PEW Research Center will be holding a Justice Reinvestment stakeholders meeting tomorrow at 1:00 pm in the House Chambers of the Indiana Statehouse, to discuss the draft policy framework that has emerged from data analyses and discussions, to solicit feedback and reactions to the information presented, and answer any questions about the analyses and framework. He invited Commissioners to attend the meeting and show support.

Meeting adjourned @ 11:34am