



FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: MCC - TRU VISIT ROOM Date: 06-14-2024 Time: 10a - 12a

Teleconference details: N/A

MEETING ATTENDEES

Paula Chandler / Ina McNeese Department/facility co-chair

Josephine Johnson Family co-chair

Facility/council secretary

Danica Seavoy Family secretary, if applicable

Members present: N

Non-council member attendees: Delana Reeves, Troy Hansen, Brian Harvold, Teve Sager, Vicki Smith, Casey Gallagher, Heather Trenk, Dennis Speck, Kristen Humble, Don McCran, Julie Workman, Lauren Bolen, Kelly Kemp, Debra Kristi, Lee Stemler, Brandi Person, Pete Maxson, Leslie O'Connor, Veronica Heib, Lisa Anderson, Rachel Symon, Kari Styles, Ron Meyer

AGENDA

Old business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Welcome	Captain. McNeese and Josephine Johnson (Family Co-Chair) welcomed and thanked the attendees. Introductions of MCC Staff and Family Council Members was led by Superintendent Lisa Anderson.	
Event Updates	Trying to spend IIFB Money prior to the end of June 2024. Heather Trenk – Event last Saturday (June 8 th , 2024), was well attended, it was amazing. Outdoor Significant Persons Day - Approx. 125 I/I's applied, capacity of the TRU VR is 160, with only 49 tables. That limits the amount that can attend. Have a wait list for a July Activity. Many of the I/I's would rather work than attend functions. Asked about a Family Friendly Field Day.	

	<p>August 11th – Back to School Event – include supplies.</p> <p>Working on bringing in additional Programs, AA / Religious, Toastmasters, Yoga Family Friendly Field Day.</p>	
Evergreen Vending	<p>Representative not available – Monday there wasn't any Food or Drinks available. June 6th, June 15th, and June 19th. WSR – Vendor is pre-scheduled, they need to call ahead to let Staff know they have arrived,</p> <p>WSR/SRTC – has Expired Food</p>	This concern has been corrected.
IIBF Update	<p>April Spending - \$62,000.00 left, needs to be spent by the end of June. Associate Superintendent Chandler is obtaining items for the EFV's and VRs for the Incarcerants children – Games and Electronics, children's smartboard.</p> <p>Superintendent Lisa Anderson – Listed other items for money to be used for– Basketball courts, Bleachers, Gym Equipment, Band Room, Greenhouse at SRTC. Asking for input, with more to come.</p> <p>CPM O'Conner – Mentioned Bleachers.</p> <p>Covid took a lot of Maintenance time, DOC is trying to play catchup – prioritize emergent issues, more to come on this.</p> <p>Wet Part of yard – Change from Recreation to garden plots – would need to bring in more dirt.</p>	IIBF dollars not available for this type of Big Work, the money needs to be done with Capital Project funds

	<p>Photos-- Use IIBF money for photos, need more cameras, hard to take photos at MSU. MSU doesn't change the backdrop.</p> <p>Sgt. Lineberger – will look into backdrops and work at rotating them. Looking into hiring someone to assist Lineberger.</p> <p>Request for new backdrops for pictures.</p> <p>LFC Question – Any dollars available for fixing big yard?</p>	
Ice Cream Incentive Program Updates	<p>CPM O'Conner - Takes time – Incarcerates obtain tickets last day of month, Business Office processes, then Custody issues tickets, Need storage for accessibility.</p> <p>Starts – Wednesday June 26th, at Mainline, Tickets are \$3.00, Similar to Fundraiser, 6-month Infraction Free – Looking at Frozen and Non-Frozen items. Alternating between A/B and C/D Units.</p>	
Yard & Gym Update	<p>Captain McNeese commented – takes extra staff to run yard/gym at the same time –</p> <p>TRU Staffing -</p> <p>1 recreation staff on day, 2 recreation staff on swing</p> <p>Have been asking every year for additional staffing.</p> <p>Supt. Anderson and Supt. Warner have asked for several Cos, is at HQ, in process.</p> <p>TRU used to be able to borrow staff from WSR, no longer able to.</p> <p>Perspective: WSR had 4 recreation staff on day, 4 recreation staff on swing and TRU has never had that recreation staffing.</p>	

	<p>Incentive Recreation Changeover period issues, need meeting scheduled with Bratten, Captain McNeese and Tier Reps.</p> <p>Suggestion from Tier Reps - If you do larger blocks there wouldn't be an issue of changeover: 8:30-10:30, 12:30-3:30, 5:50-8:30(?) Would also be beneficial for those who work all day to have more time at night. As workers will miss yard time.</p> <p>Mudroom at MSU – requested position Question about the closed yard – Recreation Yard, very wet and muddy, half is boggy. Talked about putting a Greenhouse on slab for Incarcerants with Gardening Plot to grow their own food and keep what they grow. Bleachers – Inside bleachers, working with the City of Monroe for Permits, outside bleachers would be more effective. We do have bleachers for the yard and Permit in hand. Universal Gym – Concrete Slab, have Permits in hand, going to Maintenance.</p>	
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New business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Wheelchair Storage	CPM O'Connor – Wheelchairs need to be in cells if not in use, not in hallway as a safety challenge and there is space to do so. When not in cell difficult for staff and Incarcerants to navigate around. Questions about appropriate storage should be directed to the unit CUS.	

Shower Privacy	HQ PREA – Meets requirements, if not more private than other facilities.	
Programming and Jobs	<p>At TRU, 62% of incarcerated individuals engaged in a full-time work program and 74% of our population is in at least one volunteer program, which is significantly higher than any other medium custody facilities in the state. There are vacancies available in volunteer programs should individuals choose to sign up. TRU has over 50 volunteer programs and more than 360 volunteers. We will continue to add meaningful, sustainable programs as we have available sponsors and program space.</p> <p>Question - How to get info for Edmonds CC – Reach out to Education or use Kiosk to contact Edmonds CC – Summer Break</p> <p>Need to be equipped with Marketing Skills.</p> <p>Families Request programming for going home in 5 to 10 years for reentry to be effective.</p> <p>Ideas for more programs: Mock interviews, workforce development, certified peer counseling, flagging, bring Unions in to meet with the population, equipping with licenses for marketable skills. Looking at programs Edmonds has to offer.</p> <p>July 18th ICOACH reentry program will help with transition, open to individuals one year or less to ERD and Tier Reps.</p> <p>Is University Beyond Bars an option like it was at WSR?</p>	

	<p>Capt. McNeese – interested in it, but Edmonds has educational contract with DOC Can there be a program geared toward parenting?</p> <p>CPM O’Connor – Strength in Families is available at some camps but not at TRU as there hasn’t been high interest with population here historically but can look at it.</p> <p>Edovo app: can it be degree focused? CPM O’Connor – Edovo is an app at the statewide level and would need to go through HQ.</p> <p>CDL: can we look at even just the written portion with plans to complete the driving portion upon release? CPM O’Connor – CDL is on our list to look into</p>	
<p>Building 4 – Gates to utilize other parts of the building at TRU for the population</p>	<p>Superintendent Lisa Anderson commented - This building is considered a “Safe Harbor” facility – unable to intermix with camp as “active mainline” – Tab Shop is located there and as long as it remains there nothing can change. If the Tab Shop is moved then maybe, but we have to wait for permission, currently there are 6 Incarcerants working in that location.</p>	
<p>Mainline</p>	<p>Captain Ina McNeese Commented – Serve Boats on Friday and Saturday nights this will free staff to open the Gym from 6:30 to 7:00 –This was presented and polled to Captains across the State – Every Facility works differently. Working with Correctional Industries and Associate Superintendent Bratten who is not opposed to the idea.</p>	

<p>Dog Program</p>	<p>CPM O’Conner commented – This is not a “Work Program” per policy this is a “Volunteer Program”, per DOC 700.000 and DOC 700.350. Some facilities have work programs related to dogs and cats, but the dog/cat programs themselves are not paid positions.</p> <p>Some facilities are paid - It isn’t written in the contract for Summit (program used for dog training) to offer paid training. Facilities that are paid have that included in the contract because of the work that is done – dog grooming, cutting nails, etc. are services performed.</p> <p>Type of service our dog program offers is not paid. Covid stopped the dog program and limited the areas where dogs could be, but now they are working on dogs being able to go in more areas (ex. education, yard, more access on breezeway)</p> <p>Looking at other ways to expand – maybe MSU?</p> <p>Is it possible to hold an event 2x a year where visitors can bring pets? Capt. McNeese responded – unfortunately not due to liability piece that someone’s pet might harm others. How many dogs does the program have? - Avg 8 dogs at any given time, max of 10.</p> <p>SRTC E&F units have therapeutic cat program, so unable to expand dog program into SRTC. Working with Purfect Paws for 20+ years but program is</p>	
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	<p>stringent on who qualifies. They are struggling with number of populations who qualify for the program.</p> <p>Incarcerants take feral cats and train them, take care of them in their cells, work toward domestication with the objective of adoption.</p> <p>Have seen over 170 cats through the program to adoption.</p>	
<p>Explanation for the process of pulling a grievance for internal investigation.</p>	<p>CS2 Stemler Responded and Commented –</p> <p>Yes, this is occurring. Here is some of the Language used per Resolution Program/HQ: - <i>“Please note that another administrative process is investigating your complaint concerning XXXXXXXX. As page 9 of the RPM outlines, issues or incidents being investigated outside the Resolution Program through another established process cannot be accepted. As a result, this complaint has been deemed Not Accepted for further review.”</i></p> <p>Question – If its accepted, yes – the Individual would have to be interview.</p>	
<p>Cable and Wi-Fi issues</p>	<p>Wi-Fi when Edovo app was added, call reception/quality worse -</p> <p>Submit complaint, with feedback when the contract is due for a review.</p>	
<p>SECURUS</p>	<p>TIER Rep’s Commented - Tablets call quality getting worse. Suggest a new vendor. Captain McNeese commented – this is a statewide issue. Per CPM O’Connor, Securus has not hired a new FSCA (customer service rep) for MCC and are in the process of doing so. The best way to receive</p>	

	<p>support is for individuals to submit a ticket on their tablets so the issue can be resolved. These tickets can also be tracked by DOC HQ. If the ticket does not resolve the issue, individuals can sign up on their unit sign-up sheet to see the FSCA. If there is no FSCA available, the sheets are still sent to Securus HQ for assistance.</p> <p>Update: A Securus FSCA was on site 06/26 and 06/27/2024.</p>	
Statewide	<p>Remote control buttons not working. Relooking at softer foods. Chicken bones in White Chili. Sec Time – Asking for classification Model, Red Restrictive Housing Change from Cable to Dish, there are apps on the tablet to watch TV. Presentation Final Grants – FASHA Forms Risk and REDS – 12 student In-Person. Commissary – Tablets – Generic Order form. Minimum 26 times a year. Classification – Where to place along I-5 Corridor, not enough beds. Reimbursement for attending meetings – This information is on the DOC website. Presentation – print out and give to the Tier Reps and they can share it but retain the paper copy.</p>	
ADA concern	<p>Hard to reach items out from under the bed, maybe a shelf can be used for this. Individuals that are requesting an ADA Accommodation, such as accessible shelving, should reach out to their ADA coordinator to request the accommodation.</p>	

	<p>Question – Could Shelf units that are at WSR be move to TRU, Superintendent Lisa Anderson will look into this. Acknowledged that the population needs more shelving.</p>	
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Roundtable open discussion

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
<p>Black Mold at TRU</p>	<p>Superintendent Lisa Anderson commented – There was about a 10 ft area where black mold was found in the back part of the kitchen where cleaning practices had allowed standing water, which didn't let the grout dry out. Staff was removed, they cleaned the area, have tested additional areas for black mold. Air samples say there is no black mold in the air in the kitchen. Working on a new cleaning protocol with Correctional Industries to minimize water use new hoses have been ordered. New/different flooring needed, is a \$300,000 project but they are asking for it. Could be done in sections to leave kitchen operational during the work. Awaiting remaining test results</p> <p>Question – can the test results be given to the population – Superintendent Lisa Anderson will check to see if this is possible.</p> <p>Troy Hansen commented – there is weekly Pest Control Service in Place.</p>	
<p>Questions -</p>	<p>Comments/concerns: Variable staff in Visit Rooms who do not know all the protocols.</p>	

	<p>Individuals seeing infractions appeals get lost and time out – can we get receipt when they are submitted to show they did submit?</p> <p>Capt. McNeese to follow up on it Signups for events that get lost - Contact their CUS if they think it's lost.</p> <p>If an individual has mandatory programming during an event, they must have a permission slip excusing them from programming at that time or it will be denied.</p> <p>Counselor doesn't know when or if an event is full or not, approval comes from CPPC. Do not base signing up for an event on whether a counselor advises the space is filled.</p>	
<p>Virtual/TEAMS Meeting for LFC</p>	<p>Associate Superintendent Chandler –</p> <p>The LFC will conduct meetings at least 6 times annually, with LFC meetings held during even months.</p> <p>Meetings will be in-person, scheduled by the Department as virtual, or a combination when available. The Training Center, we are able to hold the meeting on TEAMS without issue. When available we will hold an in person/TEAMS meeting on an alternating schedule.</p> <p>We have tried several times to hold in-person and virtual LFC meetings at the Twin Rivers Unit, unfortunate each time we have ran into technical difficulty, which lead into trying to trouble shoot the problem. This has a negative impact on the two-hour meeting, causing us to not complete our agenda at times.</p>	

Next meeting location: Jimmy Evans Training Cener Date: 08-17-24 Time: 10a - 12p

Comments: _____

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