



Lake County Juvenile Justice Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2023 at 1 p.m. via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98tyKuGgpz8oHtKTtx-ORpw-HY-g-jwpiFago0NIhnhVgUASgzxLM8UIZogSPn8>

Meeting was recorded

Participants:

Eric Rinehart
Gina Roberts
John Bailey
John Idleburg
Joy Gossman
Karen Levi
Marnie Slavin
Vina Shee

Meeting:

1. Call to order at 1:04 p.m.
2. Approval of minutes from September 6, 2023 meeting.
3. Coordinator updates provided:
 - a. JJC Coordinator, Vina Shee, will be changing her working days to Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to reflect the shift from SAO intern to part-time JJC Coordinator.
 - b. On September 22nd, the JJC executed Youth Mental Health First Aid training alongside the Lake County Health Department and their volunteer instructors. The class resulted in 8 community members certified.
4. Committees
 - a. Originally, our committees (racial & ethnic disparities, outreach, training, legislative, and youth) were modeled from the Kane County juvenile justice

council. However, some of the committees are not active and don't fit the efforts of the Lake County JJC.

- b. The board voted to terminate the legislative committee but continue to inform the JJC and community about updates to legislation that affect youth and families. This will mainly come in the form of a page on the JJC website dedicated to legislation.
- c. The board voted to merge the outreach and training committee to become the outreach and education committee. Gina Roberts and Dr. Karner will chair this committee.
- d. The racial & ethnic disparities (RED) committee will remain as is due to its ongoing efforts of data collection and program initiative in certain police departments around the county. The co-chairpersons, Karen Levi and John Bailey, will be attending the national RED conference later this month.
- e. The youth committee has 3 members that all met last week. The scope of the youth committee is expanding from just focusing on the juvenile justice system to also include community youth concerns. The Youth Ambassador Board, once back up and running, should have a relationship with the JJC youth committee. Along with providing the JJC first-hand experience and observations of youth concerns and trends, the youth involved in the committee will have opportunities to practice and learn skills, such as communication, event coordination, public speaking, networking, etc. The goal is to provide our youth committee parameters to work within, but give them some freedom to pursue creative and innovative projects they deem necessary.
 - i. One of the first projects that can get the committee started is planning a career fair for youth in the county.
 - ii. There is also the desire to have a pseudo "Girl-Wise" event open to boys and girls, run by the youth committee.
 - iii. Joy Gossman recommends partnering the committee with Mothers Trust Foundation for their annual event in the summer. The JJC coordinator will get in contact to start this connection.
 - iv. On the focus of the juvenile justice system, the youth members need to be educated on the system and how it works. Volunteer educators will be needed to facilitate this crucial educational aspect of the formation of the youth committee.
 - v. Joy Gossman recounts teaching youth and families about laws, not just juvenile laws but even traffic laws, that affect youth. This showed that we should put forth effort in communicating the implications of all laws when it affects youth. There may be an appetite for an educational event to inform youth about these laws.

5. Judge Slavin and Judge Mathews want to do a training event to educate the community on the Regional Office of Education (Dr. Karner) and the resources available to youth and families, such as mental health and transportation difficulties. This would be a great collaboration opportunity for the JJC and LCBA. A date for this event has not been decided. Eric Rinehart mentions the CLC conference room would be a scenic location for this event.
6. The Lake County Bar Association does not currently have a committee for juvenile law. All board members agree that juvenile law and laws affecting youth are not widely known and educating those who practice law on juvenile law would assist in the juvenile justice system to run more smoothly. Karen Levi offered to bring this concern up to the LCBA.
7. NAACP of Lake County has expressed interest in collaborating more with the JJC. They can be a potential speaker at our next quarterly JJC meeting on December 6th. If they agree to speak, the main topic can be civil rights and the JJC Coordinator can search for other organizations that can speak regarding the topic.
8. The next board meeting will be held November 1st, 2023.
9. Adjourned at 2:02 p.m.