

California Sex Offender Management Board
October 16, 2008, 9:00 AM
California State University at Sacramento

Minutes:

Board Member Check-in

- Present members (Quorum present)
 - Suzanne Brown McBride (Chair)
 - Tom Tobin (Vice-chair)
 - Robert Ambroselli
 - Gerry Blasingame
 - Judge Peter Espinoza
 - Dave Gerard
 - Pamela King
 - Janet Neeley
 - Angela Thompson
 - Diane Webb
- Absent members
 - Catherine Duggan
 - Michael Johnson
 - Sophia McBeth-Childs
 - Nancy O'Malley
 - Jerry Powers

Minutes

- Corrections made by the Board.
- Motion to approve minutes as amended made by Angela Thompson, seconded by Gerry Blasingame, and approved by Board.

State Updates

- State has recently experienced budgetary challenges.
- Fortunately for the majority of sexual assault organizations, most funding is federal.
- However, organizations such as nonprofits, are currently struggling.

Committee Updates

- The treatment committee has struggled with the budget freeze and the inability to meet during the summer. Currently, it plans to examine the consistency of certification standards for sex offender treatment providers in California.

Research Update

- CSUS is gathering thirty-four different variables concerning repeat sex offenders; particularly parolees who were returned to custody because they were convicted of new registerable sex crimes, since 2001, and any indications that relevant legislation (such as PC 290) is linked.
- The research team hopes to start writing the recidivism report in March and have it finished by summer.

Publications Check-in

- Board reviews the housing paper from CSUS.
- Board debates the proper language tone that should be used in the paper.

January Report

- Three marks that the Board is tasked to hit:
 - Assessment
 - Progress update—the January report.

- o Recommendations
- Approach
 - o Committees are currently identifying key issues in order to work toward final recommendations.
 - o Ex: The Treatment Committee is looking at the consistency of state certification standards and will ultimately decide whether to highlight this issue in final report to legislature.
 - o The governor and legislature want guidance from the Board.
 - o Cost and effectiveness of GPS is proposed as one potential issue to address. Another is the Adam Walsh Act.
 - o Next month, when committees meet, they should discuss whether there are substantive issues that the Board may want to provide early guidance to the legislature about in the upcoming (January) report.
 - o Finalization and publication of the housing paper.

Housing Paper

- Board was uncomfortable previously with the "tone" of paper, but is generally satisfied now.
- Board members offer revisions—among them, the use of "people first" language and the semantics of referencing sex offenders.

Adam Walsh Act (AWA)

- Has been passed for some time now but largely a non-issue in California until recently.
- To date, not a single state has come into compliance with the AWA. Three have tried.
- The part of the act that concerns the board is SORNA.
 - o There has been a lot of litigation over whether it is constitutional.
 - o Consensual offenses could become registerable; AWA is retroactive
- Board decides to write a position paper and send a draft out to members before the next meeting.

Dashboard

- Committees will look at the dashboard draft (at their sections, in particular) and make revisions/suggestions.
- Committees asked to consider what sort of data is available and would be most useful to policymakers.

Housing Discussion in November

- Board members plan to hear testimonies at the next meeting on housing of sex offenders from a variety of entities that work in the field.

The next meeting will take place on November 20, 2008.