

1 **COMMUNITY JUSTICE TASK FORCE MINUTES**

2 **Wednesday, November 7 2012**

3 **Jennifer K Putman Meeting Room**

4 **Brookens Administrative Center**

5 **1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

6  
7 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lynn Branham, Mark Driscoll, Sheila Ferguson, James Kilgore,  
8 Julian Rappaport, Michael Richards (Chair), William Sullivan  
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11 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Scott Bennett, Benita Rollins-Gay  
12

13 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Pattsy Petrie, County Board Member; Aaron Ammons, Jerehme  
14 Bamberger, Chris Evans  
15

16 **Call to Order**

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18 Richards called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.  
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20 **Roll Call**

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22 Branham, Driscoll, Ferguson, Kilgore, Rappaport, Richards, and Sullivan were present  
23 establishing a quorum.  
24

25 **Public Participation**

26  
27 No public participation  
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29 **Approval of Minutes – September 24, 2012**

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31 **Motion** by Rappaport to approve minutes; seconded by Kilgore. Rappaport suggested  
32 changing the word “is” to “this: on line 182. **Motion approved as amended.**  
33

34 **Discussion with Dr. Alan Kalmanoff, ILPP**

35  
36 Richards introduced Dr. Alan Kalmanoff of ILPP, who asked that everyone call him Kal.  
37 Kal asked that the time for discussion be limited to one hour. He said he has seen the report  
38 and will listen to any comments. Richards opened the floor for discussion.

39 Kal stated he has spoken with Sheriff Welch, Allen Jones and Lt. Cravens. He said he  
40 had also spoken to Julia Reitz about the prosecutors and the scene in general, and had also  
41 talked to Pius Weibel, John Jay and Tom Betz. He stated he had had dinner with Carol and  
42 Aaron Ammons where they talked about the history of the Community Justice Task Force and  
43 what the issues are. He went on to say that there is an impressive array of police chiefs. Kal  
44 stated that one thing that is almost as important as the discussion of criminal justice is database  
45 integration. He noted it seems that there are death grip vendors that don't talk to each other. He  
46 also said he has talked to the Champaign city manager and has received numerous blueprints  
47 and reports from Alan Reinhart. He stated he will be taking a tour of the jails tomorrow, has  
48 some meetings set up for Friday, and said he would like to try to connect with the UofI and talk  
49 to them as if they were just another city rather than a university. He noted that what he found  
50 most useful from the report was the list of services and said they are a tool. He said that now it  
51 needs to be determined if the system operates beyond the cage in augmenting these services.

52 Richards stated that the community input was a very important part of the report and  
53 asked Kal if he had any plans to interact with the community. Kal answered not at this time; he  
54 wants to wait and see what the community will call for. He noted that he doesn't want to spend

55 time on what's already known, but to find out what's missing. Kilgore asked for a broader idea of  
56 the process. He asked how often Kal would be here and if others would also be here. Sullivan  
57 asked what product will be delivered at the end. Kal stated that delivery won't be just at the end,  
58 but in several sections along the way. He said they will look at who is currently in the system,  
59 how many arrests there have been, how many citations issued, etc. He noted they will also do a  
60 snap shot profile, or population study, of who is physically in the building at any given time along  
61 with any personal information about the population. He said they will then classify the profile. He  
62 stated that in his experience, what the Sheriff thinks is 20% max security, 30% medium security,  
63 etc., usually isn't accurate.

64 Sullivan stated that the committee is a little suspicious of the information given by the  
65 experts, and that those that react on gut instincts aren't usually as accurate as those who use  
66 data. Rappaport asked if Kal planned on getting a database handle on the population that has  
67 access to the programs on the list. Kilgore stated that one issue that has been in the foreground  
68 is racial disparity. He stated he would like a report to include a profile of that. Kal stated that isn't  
69 his charge but would be happy recommend ways to do that. He went on to say that race will be  
70 included in his profile though. Kilgore noted concern that it won't cross-reference to any of the  
71 causes. Kal noted that since racial disparity was brought up in the report, he can get  
72 instruments to blunt the force.

73 Sullivan asked if the snap shot will be just one day. Kal stated that the research isn't  
74 science and one day is more than enough. He noted that the day selected shouldn't be after a  
75 holiday or a mass demonstration, etc. He noted the first step is to study the profile, the second  
76 is to classify it, and the third is tracking the analysis to look for slowdowns in the system that  
77 cause overcrowding. He went on to say that the man and his needs have to be studied and then  
78 the programs also need to be studied.

79 Richards noted that they have 20 minutes left and Kal has done most of the talking. He  
80 noted that if there is anything not in the report that now is the time to let Kal know. Branham  
81 stated that she would like to know, based on risk assessments, who could be put into other  
82 programs. She asked if the risk assessment will link to other community sanctions. Kal said that  
83 it would. Kilgore stated that he can appreciate not sitting through a long community meeting but  
84 felt that it would be beneficial to have some sort of public session so the community would have  
85 some sort of buy-in. Kal stated that he, or another member of his team, would be happy to go to  
86 any meeting so long as there is reasonable notice.

87 Kal noted that sentencing is not an area to get into because it goes nowhere with the  
88 judges, who don't like their authority questioned. He said rather to give them the available  
89 options. Ferguson asked if he would be seeing Judge Ford who heads the drug and mental  
90 health courts. Kal said no, but possibly a member of his team would. Sullivan asked to what  
91 point the report would deal with alternatives to incarceration. Kal stated it is definitely included,  
92 but that it won't come first. Sullivan stated he is interested in taking a complete view; there is an  
93 entire ecology with dozens of ideas to prevent arrests. Kilgore wanted to know how to look at  
94 financing. He mentioned the public safety sales tax and how it is allocated 5% for programs and  
95 95% for facilities and felt the County Board needed to look at ways of shifting those funds. Kal  
96 answered that is not a decision for him, but one the County Board will have to make. He noted  
97 that his way of looking at it is that it costs 20 times more to operate a jail than to build one

98 Richard asked what information might be useful. Kal answered the list of programs is  
99 useful. Ferguson noted that it isn't a complete list, but can make more information available. Kal  
100 said he will take all the information anybody can give him; he prefers it be sent to him  
101 electronically. He stated that he envisions the list of programs becoming a chart.

102 Rappaport wanted to know if the recommendation of a coordinating council was feasible.  
103 Kal stated that there already is one but it is informal. He noted that Difanis, Reitz and others  
104 have daily discussions. Kal said the NIC has a book that he recommended getting. Rappaport  
105 asked for Kal's reaction to the list of priority tasks for the consultant. Kal stated that his job here  
106 has a short time frame and the committee has a broader job of influencing changes. He stated

107 he appreciated the list and was informed by it.

108 Driscoll noted that there is a mental health team and a specialty court steering  
109 committee and thought it might be helpful to meet with those groups as well. Kal stated that  
110 when you create a drug court you create a bureaucracy. The dark side of it is that the net of the  
111 criminal justice system is extended. He commented that he wasn't sure he wanted to go down  
112 the road of specialty courts, thinking that too much money goes into them and there are people  
113 in it that shouldn't be. He said he would talk to the judge and the teams but will set his  
114 boundaries.

115 Petrie suggested Kal take a tour of the JDC when touring the jails. Kal noted that he had  
116 thought of cancelling the tours since he has seen every type of jail there is. He says he plans on  
117 looking at several buildings though.

118 Branham felt that it is imperative to implement the recommendation of ILPP and the  
119 CJTF. Kal noted that he doesn't share all the same ideas, such as the transparency. He said he  
120 is a big believer in transparency for government but doesn't think it has a place in a criminal  
121 policy making group. Branham stated that she felt they could build on what they have. Kal  
122 stated that he has set up criminal justice advisory boards in almost every county he has worked  
123 in. He stated he would be happy if he could set up a board of 6-8 gatekeepers here, but to be  
124 careful what you wish for. He gave his phone number and email address to everyone so they  
125 could contact him and said he will always try to be responsive.

126 Richards thanked Kal for being here and said that everyone is looking forward to  
127 working with him.

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### 129 Discussion of Recommendations Report

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131 Richards stated there were some items they need to discuss regarding the report.  
132 Kilgore felt the last item should be moved up. He noted he emailed a recommendation today  
133 regarding cross referencing racial disparity. Branham stated she added #4 and gave just one  
134 example. She noted that one option is to add one more background document. Kilgore thought  
135 everyone had agreed that race was not outside the charge of the task force. He felt that there  
136 couldn't be a priority list for the consultant that didn't include race when it is just as important as  
137 mental health, which is included. Ferguson stated this task force isn't set up to take on the race  
138 issue, that there needs to be a different set of people. Rappaport felt that #10 spoke directly to  
139 that. He stated that he isn't worried about asking the consultant to do what Kilgore is suggesting  
140 and that they need to let him know that the task force feels it is important.

141 Ferguson agreed with moving up recommendation #10 but also expanding on  
142 recommendation two. Sullivan stated that you can't understand the criminal justice system  
143 without including race. He also noted that you can't make a recommendation regarding race  
144 without data. Branham noted that #4 and #6 are not all encompassing lists of data. Kilgore is  
145 concerned they are going to get a report from the consultant that says 70% of the jail population  
146 is African American but it won't cross reference why.

147 Richards stated that there was a request from the public to comment and asked for a  
148 motion. **Motion** by Kilgore to suspend the rules to engage the public. Seconded by Sullivan.  
149 **Motion did not pass.**

150 Driscoll felt the section of the public safety sales tax needed to be added to Richards'  
151 report. He had no objection to making any of the changes suggested. There were no other  
152 objections to the changes.

153 Rappaport asked if they were going to re-order. Driscoll stated he thought they had the  
154 order other than to insert the philosophical statement as #1 and move #10 up. Rappaport  
155 clarified that the statement Kilgore emailed would become #1 and what is currently #1 would  
156 become #2. Kilgore read the statement he had emailed. Branham felt it could be combined with  
157 the current #1. Rappaport disagreed saying the statement is the philosophical approach and #1  
158 is the action wanted. He also mentioned changing the word "sentencing" to "alternative" so as

159 not to anger the judges. Kilgore suggested "restorative options." A few other ideas were given.  
160 Richard asked if there was a consensus on the wording. There was.

161 Kilgore said they needed to talk about the presentation on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Richards stated they  
162 would not be the only ones making a presentation. He said to try to limit the presentation to 15  
163 minutes. Richards said he will be facilitating and would like everyone there to be able to answer  
164 questions. Rappaport asked when the report will go out to the County Board members.  
165 Richards said Thursday. Discussion continued on how the presentation would be made and  
166 who would make it.

167 Petrie suggested that if someone was up to writing a cover memo to go with the report  
168 that it could be helpful. Richards suggested continuing the discussion thru email.

169

170 **Other Business**

171

172 Richards stated that the next event for this committee would be the presentation on the  
173 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Driscoll asked if Richards was going to be responsible for getting the final  
174 document to Administrative Services for distribution. Richards stated they would have it  
175 tomorrow. Rappaport suggested an email be sent to everyone with the date and time of the  
176 meeting. Petrie stated that the meeting will be at the ILEAS building due to remodeling at the  
177 Brookens Building.

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179 **Adjournment**

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181 The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

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183

184 Respectfully Submitted,

185

186 Linda Lane

187 Administrative Assistant