

**Skagit County Law and Justice Council
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 9th, 2011, 8:15 a.m.**

ATTENDANCE:

| | | |
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| Will Reichardt | Lisa Rumsey | Charlie Wend |
| Gregg Freeman | Ken Dahlstedt | Tim Holloran |
| Jennifer Kingsley | Alan Erickson | Chuck Benjamin |
| Delilah George | Peter Browning | Andrea Vallee |
| Lin Tucker | Lynsi Burton | Dale Ragan |
| Bonnie Bowers | Shawn Thompson | Laurie Jarolimek |

Today's meeting began at 8:15 a.m. with introductions and a welcome from **Gregg Freeman**, *DOC Regional Supervisor and Law & Justice Council Vice-Chairman*.

Previous Meeting Minutes

There was a motion and second by the Council that the October 12th, 2011 meeting minutes be approved. The motion carried.

MEETING TOPIC: Skagit County Inter-local Drug Enforcement Unit (SCIDEU)
Chief Criminal Deputy and Task Force Commander, Tom Molitor, gave an overview of the Drug Task Force, which is made up of 20 members serving Skagit, Island and San Juan Counties, complete with visual aids consisting of confiscated drugs taken out of circulation in Skagit County.

Health Dept Director, Peter Browning, commented that the juvenile educational version of this presentation would be a great thing to expose high school and middle school age students to. Drug usage is up in the 8th and 9th grade through high school age student.

MV City Councilman, Dale Ragan, commented that he hopes Mount Vernon Police Department will reinvest in SCIDEU under the new administration. **Chief Molitor** stated they would be welcome.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

DOC Budget Cuts Update: **Gregg Freeman** gave an overview of the serious situation the community should prepare for if the proposed cuts take place. Last year DOC supervised 65,000 offenders statewide. With the proposed 5% cut this would decrease to 16,000 supervised offenders, with the excess being released unsupervised or with drastically reduced sentences. If a 10% cut is passed almost ALL community supervision would be eliminated.

Community Services Director, Jennifer Kingsley, presented information on the upcoming forums that have been put together to inform the public of the affect of the proposed budget cuts on our local community. See attached flier for details on the 4 scheduled forums. Each 1 ½ hour presentation is aimed at educating the community about the impact of cutting funds to DOC, Developmental Disabilities, Long Term Care for Seniors, Mental Health, Public Health and Substance Abuse Treatment. The Council suggested adding another forum for the Mount Vernon area, and to invite elected officials as well as the public to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Juvenile Courts Director, Lisa Rumsey, was nominated and elected as our 3rd representative from the Law & Justice Council to the .1% Committee.

It was proposed and seconded that our current slate of Law & Justice Executive Board Officers be re-elected for the 2012 term. This was passed unanimously. Officers are: **Ken Bergsma**, *Chairman*; **Gregg Freeman**, *Vice-Chairman*; **Andrea Vallee**, *Member Representative*.

Lisa Rumsey gave an update on the very successful Graffiti Abatement Program for juveniles in Mount Vernon. Gang members clean up graffiti as part of their court order. With budget cuts many of programs like this that help break the gang cycle and keep juveniles out of detention, may have to be cut. These cuts will result in more juveniles back in detention. Rumsey introduced **Shawn Thompson**, the new *Juvenile Detention Manager*. Thompson has worked as a Juvenile Court officer and supervisor, and most recently as a teacher in Concrete.

Superior Court Supervisor, Delilah George, announced that Friday, November 18th is National Adoption Day. 6 children will be adopted into their forever homes at 3:00 on the 18th. Everyone is invited to attend. There are over 500 children in this region able to be adopted at this time.

NEXT MEETING- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January, 11th, 2012. There will be no December meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

Approved __1/11/12_____