

BIPSOC: AD HOC LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting of March 8th, 2007 DRAFT

MINUTES

Present: (6) Maureen Keough, Attorney General's Office/Chair; Laura Jaworski, BIPSOC; Ed Degnan, Kent House; Michael DiLauro, Public Defender's Office; Dr. Kathleen Carty, Vantage Point; Sisan Smallman, BIPSOC Chair/Probation & Parole.

Materials Distributed:

- Agenda for March 8th, 2007 meeting.**
- Minutes from February 1st, 2007 meeting.**

Maureen called the meeting to order at 1pm. Subcommittee members reviewed and approved the minutes from the February 1st, 2007 meeting.

Subcommittee members received notice that the draft version of the legislation the group developed has been submitted by Senator Charles Levesque. However, members noticed that on the second page of Senate Bill #742, Line 4, the words "during or outside of incarceration" was not part of the draft version submitted. Maureen stated that she would follow-up with Sen. Levesque immediately.

Mike expressed concern about the notice process that would be

implemented to inform inmates of the possibility to receive credit for attendance at a prison-based batterers intervention program. Mike stated that Sisan had previously mentioned that she would work with the Department of Corrections to address this issue. Sisan reiterated her commitment to facilitate this process.

Subcommittee members reviewed the draft Comprehensive Standards that were created by Sisan and later reviewed by the “Working Group” of the Subcommittee. Laura sent the proposed Standards to currently certified batterers intervention programs as requested by the Subcommittee/Working Group for feedback. No program feedback was received. Sisan questioned the Working Group’s insertion of the words “Community-Based” in the first section. After much discussion, Subcommittee members agreed that this wording should be removed. Kathy Carty expressed concern that the proposed Standards do not address the number of times an inmate would be eligible to receive credit for attending a prison-based batterers intervention program. Sisan stated that the intent is to retain the incentive for participation, and insertion of such language may limit this. After much discussion, the Subcommittee proposed a Standard be created addressing further review of a request for credit for attendance at a prison-based batterers intervention program if the individual is a repeat offender. Sisan reported that she will draft language to be distributed to members as soon as possible. A tentative meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 22nd.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm.

UPCOMING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING:

Thursday, March 22nd, 2007 at _____ (tentative)

RI Department of Corrections

15 Fleming Road

Bernadette Building-First Floor

Cranston, RI 02920

Minutes Prepared by Laura Jaworski