

**Citizen Review Panel**  
**Tuesday, March 4, 2014**  
**3:30 to 5:00 p.m.**  
**Teleconference**

**Present:** Diwakar, Dana, Kristin, Ben, Margie

**Absent:**

**Minutes**

1) Juneau

Diwakar: The last meeting we had was with the staffer for the Senate Committee. We asked why they won't deal with us. The Chair is a seat warmer and not interested, but hopefully he'll be gone. He doesn't want to learn anything about HSS. He was put there to get him out of the way.

Dana: Is there a co-chair?

Diwakar: We asked what if he's still Chair. The staffer said the best bet is to pressure the other members to hold a hearing. All the other meetings were cordial and responsive.

Kristin: I didn't have a chance to look at the video online.

Diwakar: I think the committee was engaged. They asked for some things, and I guess they really happen although I'm not sure how fast. An interesting meeting—Vitamin D is the solution to everything. We did talk briefly about CRP issues. We raised our issue about OCS being a public safety function. He asked if OCS should be part of Dept. of Public Safety.

Dana: His questions and comments during the hearing were right on target.

Diwakar: Rep. Tarr was encouraging. She encouraged us to pursue special project funds. Instead of asking for new PCNs, get special project funds. I guess we can bounce that idea around with leadership team. It was quick, efficient. The committee was engaged.

Ben: Another thing about HSS committee is they don't have any power. The people who are on both committees are the same.

Diwakar: Thinking about what committee to present to...it may vary from year to year. We really need to think through why we do this. What's the purpose of the trip? It bothers me when we show up to these meetings and I don't feel like we have a clear purpose.

Dana: Is there something in our mandate that requires us to do it?

Sylvan: No. If we never called, I don't think they would call us.

Dana: I think there is purpose in it. I think this was our most productive trip.

Sylvan: I think it's important to do it. We need to show up and remind them about these issues.

Kristin: I only went once. Letting them hear what we're about. They don't read the report when we send it. It gives them time to really understand. What is our focus? Why do we go?

Diwakar: We'll talk about that during our June meeting. The other useful meeting was our meeting with the Commissioner. It was constructive criticism. The big point was the push back on case reviews. The mellowed a little when we explained why we think case reviews are important. DC Sailors said she wants to avoid "Monday morning quarterbacking."

Dana: Streur suggested we might be helpful in talking to the AHFC about housing issues in the bush.

Diwakar: We need to strategize about how to do it.

Dana: We don't want to drop that.

Diwakar: Write a formal letter to the board explaining why this is important. Or ask for time at their board meeting.

Sylvan: It feels like it would be good to ask someone about the best approach.

Dana: Pat would be good to ask. I think they're back in Juneau.

Diwakar: Dana, can you ask Pat about that?

Dana: I will. Without reservations, I think Diwakar and Margie did a great job speaking to the committee. No reservations. If you were listening to representative Seaton, 5,000 IU per day. I was pleased to recognize in a public way the social and cultural aspects of child protection.

Margie: I think it's worth it to do these presentations. We were supporting OCS.

Ben: I think it also keeps them on their toes. I gives us more clout. I think we should have tried to work with the House Finance Subcommittee more. Maybe Neuman or Stoltze.

Diwakar: This whole budget hearing...maybe we need to present to the finance committee.

Dana: I think we need to talk to the representatives outside of the session.

Diwakar: Maybe we need a new strategy to make that happen.

## 2) Items to wrap up this week

- Sending letters (in response to Gara's request) to members of House finance committee

Diwakar: That came out okay, the tone of it? The thing I was trying to get at is that it's OCS job to deal with the methodology challenges.

Ben: It's harder for people to ignore you when you're saying something. I like the letter. I think you got to the OCS point on the second page. You repeated our recommendations on the first page. It's a bold move and I think it's a good thing. Next time around they may remember it.

Diwakar: Any issues with the new letterhead or logo?

Dana: I like the letter, but maybe for disinterested legislators the salient points should have been sooner.

Diwakar: Being a teacher I expected Dana to catch that.

*Diwakar left.*

- Kodiak trip report  
Not waiting for Linda Rysoff with ICWA workers.
- Bethel trip report

### 3) Recruiting

- Checking Rodreshia's references  
Will wait till we hear from one or two references.
- Checking Bettyann Steciw references  
No need to wait for third reference. I will invite her to join.  
Send Steve Decker application

### 4) National CRP meeting

Dana: Kristin have you ever gone? No. Sylvan: I've never gone. If someone has a great desire to attend.  
Ben and Margie aren't available. Kristin isn't available. Dana not interested.  
Diwakar can't go.

### 5) Next meeting dates

- Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> Noon to 1:00 p.m. Teleconference with Christy –Kirstin will be gone. The data Christy sent, disturbing number of "insufficient information to locate." Wouldn't take call if no birthdate or (heard in Kodiak). Knew what school child attended. Exclusively took oral reports, can't send written report.
- Margie will be out of town, but will try to call in. Ben will be in Anchorage, but will call in.  
Kodiak staff, Christy's choice, Bethel supply issue, regarding high numbers of in home cases in Bethel
- Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Teleconference to debrief about Christy