



VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

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MINUTES

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

10 AM – 3 PM

John Howard Society Offices – 1585 Bowen Road, Nanaimo

Attending: Betty Price (on behalf of Caryl at Arrowsmith RJ); Brian Tyacke (Droectpr-at-Large and John Howard – Nanaimo and VIU Criminology); Kim Fagerlund (John Howard Nanaimo); Genesis Hunt (Vice-President and Alert Bay/Campbell River); Gillian Lundquist (RJ Victoria); Andrea Safavi (Peninsula Crossroads JR); Mylkes Morrison (West Coast RJ – Ucluelet); Gail Jewsbury (Treasurer and Warmland RJ – Duncan); Jane Waterman (Texada Island & Powell River RJ); Julia Daies (GOPId River RJ)

Guest: Roy F. Janisch, Ph.D., Pittsburg State University, Dept. of History, Philosophy, & Social Sciences

1. Interview Research on RJ on Vancouver Island

Janisch introduced his research project in which he is conducting recorded interviews of executives, workers, volunteers, etc. working within Restorative Justice organizations on Vancouver Island. It is an interview of 20 questions with an approximate 40 minute time-frame for each interview; give or take depending on responses. He invited those attending to offer to be interviewed and to encourage other RJ practitioners and organizational directors in their programmes to also agree to be interviewed. If you are amenable to assisting him in his project, he is very interesting in visiting with you and your program and doing an interview in person or by phone. His e-mail address is: rjtigger9@gmail.com or he may be called on his cell phone: (602) 684-9568, if you are interested in following up on his request for interviews.

2. Programme Updates

Warmland: AGM is being held on April 15 at Island Savings Centre – all invited

Texada-Powell River: still experiencing low referrals

Comox Valley: Very successful Campagnolo Lecture by the chief Justice of Canada in February and a fascinating report (forthcoming) from RCMP – E Division on the future of RJ

West Coast: Victims of Crime Week program is offering Peacemaking Circle training, CJF training (Spaces for both available) and a panel on April 23rd featuring RJ leaders speaking about where RJ is going and where would they like it to go?

Peninsula Crossroads: the focus this year is on increasing referrals and outreach to the community so as to begin taking community referrals of non-criminal matters.

RJ Victoria: this year working on educating police and Crown on what types of files are good for

RJ Referrals. Their Victims of Crime Week activity is a day long symposium featuring Martin Brokenleg.

Arrowsmith: referrals are down, but by removing the requirement for police attendance at resolution conferences two months ago, referrals have risen dramatically!

John Howard – Nanaimo: has received funding for a mentoring program. Also, 2 practicum students from VIU have been working on important projects (liaison with sex trade workers group for RJ outreach and enhancing RJ across the curriculum in the private school established by the Snuneymuxw First Nation). Fagerlund has also been invited to offer RJ training to the inmates in the Nanaimo Detention Centre.

Gold River: case referrals have doubled! (1 → 2) and the new RCMP S/Sgt. Is very supportive of RJ

Alter Bay: recent work has been involved with bringing the Gold River Tsaxana First Nation back into the Aboriginal Justice Strategy programme, as well as the Tahsis First Nation.

3. Regional Training Session Planning Pearl Hunt

3.1 VIRRJA Executive Report on Venue, Dates, Organization

Curtis reported that he had sent out an e-mail on these issues to the Executive and suggested Sat + Sun, October 3 + 4, or the weekend prior and that the geographic region should be Nanaimo Parksville. There were no responses.

AGREED: That the Regional AGM & RETREAT/TRAINING Conference be held the Saturday and Sunday, October 3rd and 4th in the Nanaimo/Parksville area.

Jewsbury will get bids from Yellowpoint, Bayside and Tigh-Na-Mara for a conference rate for attendees for the Saturday night (and an optional 2nd night on Friday for those who wish to pay for it themselves) as well as the costs for Saturday lunch and dinner/social; Sun Breakfast and Lunch; coffee/tea both days, and continental breakfast on Saturday morning for arrival time; and have that information for 50 and 100 guests sent in to Curtis by May 15th. Curtis will get that out to the Executive who will decide by e-mail prior to the end of May and get that information out to the programmes by the end of May.

AGREED: That Curtis will take that information, together with the programme expenses and develop a budget and recommend some travel policy around the payment of accommodation/food costs (subsidy or full pay for a specified # of participants from each programme and have Executive review it and announce to programmes.

PROGRAMME:

1. A panel with Alana Abramson, the facilitator of the Craig Bay forum run by Arrowsmith, and a person who went through RJ process with the Vic RJ programme recommended by Lundquist and a moderator to ask some questions and keep the process flowing (1 ½ - 2 hours) – Abramson needs travel expenses; Vic RJ person is now in Vancouver so will need expenses; Craig Bay Case will need expenses, moderator will need expenses and perhaps an honourarium.
2. Sandra McDowell recommended by Jane) doing a team building exercise from the list provided. It would include some background on personality types, team characteristics and then a team building exercise. Cost would be \$500 plus expenses for the day trip from Powell River.
3. Myles Morrison will do “de-briefing”, possibly including some material on impact of trauma, and processes used by various programmes, and perhaps a set of possible questions that could be used to develop a process. He would need expenses and perhaps an honourarium.
4. Gillian proposed an evaluation presentation that would include a prior interview with VIRRJA programmes about what they are doing and what data they would be willing to gather so that VIRRJA could produce an annual report. The initial consultation results would be prepared and reported to VIRRJA and then the Conference workshop would be a presentation of the information, the options, the value and then a discussion of what VIRRJA, as a region, wants to do.
AGREED to proceed with Gillian’s proposal for a fee of \$2,000 and a check was authorized and given to her.
5. Information about having Dave Gustafson was to come from Pearl, not yet received.

3.2 Budget (to come at the end of May, when the information has been provided)

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| - venue costs | - travel costs |
| - catering costs | - accommodation costs |
| - administration (for VIRJA) | -speakers -Trans/Acc/Meals/Honouraria |
| - other costs | - incidentals (equipment rental, etc.) |

4. Business Session

4.1 Call to Order

4.2 Minutes of Meeting February 16, 2015

**THAT the Minutes of the VIRRJA Meeting held February 16 be adopted as
circulated** **CARRIED**

4.3 Membership Report - Gail Jewsbury

Jewsbury reported that we have 11 or 12 members with fees paid and that she will check back in the records to see which is the 12th member.

4.4 Financial Report - Gail Jewsbury

Jewsbury reported that we have \$3,274.23 in the bank, and with the cheques issued today (and the revenue of \$20 in membership fees) we have \$1259.28 remaining in the bank so we need to get the application in to CJI for the regional training event.

4.5 Upcoming Meeting Dates

EVERYONE AGREED THAT THESE ARE THE NEXT MEETING DATES:

Monday, June 15, 2015

VIRRJA Reps Meeting

Sat/Sun October 3&4, 2015

AGM & Regional Training