



VANCOUVER ISLAND REGION RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION

Minutes
Tuesday, April 4, 2017
10 AM – 3 PM

1. Programme Updates- Reps that are attending provide an overview of what's up

Texada/Powell River – Apr 19 is a scheduled community meeting, co-presented by the RCMP, to generate interest and volunteers from Powell River and to enhance collaboration with Victim Services on Texada

Penninsular Cross-Roads – AGM speaker on integrated courts, working on greater representation from political/municipal reps. Suse Saunders was elected Chair. There were a record number of files last year (12 -15) and enhanced press and social media coverage.

Victoria RJ – received 1 full and one half Civil Forfeiture grants (not funding training this year), doing some interesting files (a healing circle Crown and Probation want to participate in), increasing number of files from Judges sentencing RJ. Average of 70 files per year. AGM is April 22nd.

Tofino/Ucluelet – Benjamin Perrin (UBC Prof) was on CBC saying RJ doesn't work and isn't effective. FASD workshop in Nanaimo was very good, disclosed that some effects are genetic and can be exhibited in grand children. Also, brain development can be delayed to Age 29/30 among those who drink in their youth. Two elder suicides in the region causing great concern. Still only a trickle of files (10 or so). Comox Valley – Mental Health Workshop very well attended with participants from as far as Williams Lake and across the Island. The case coordinators are already applying it in their pre-conference assessments. April 27 is the 6th Annual Campagnolo Lecture on RJ with Rt. Hon. Adrienne Clarkson and Dr. John Ralston Saul, with a \$100/plate fundraising dinner the night prior with them as guests of honour. Received a substantial supporting grant for the Lectures from Freshwater Research in Calgary. We have a current file in which there appears to be some investigation errors made by police and it has complicated and delayed the resolution conference.

Duncan – three files so far this year, but there are a lot of transients who don't go through with resolution meetings and also have an elder financial abuse file and an "assault – road rage" file that is very interesting. There are an average of 40 files/year.

2. Educational Session:

2.1 Mental Health in RJ – Comox presented a brief overview of their recent two day training on mental health and RJ.

2.2 Trauma informed RJ – Rourke led a discussion on the video on Trauma which was provided as a link prior to the meeting and highlighted:

- Need to encourage a creative stance to open processes
- There are some treatments (mindfulness, presencing, yoga)
- Likely to be a permanent impact, but as you can't restore a broken egg, you can at least make an omelette.

3. Business Session

3.1 Call to Order

3.2 Minutes of Meeting Feb 25, 2017

That the Minutes of the VIRRJA Meeting held Feb 25, 2017 be approved.

CARRIED

3.3 VIRRJA Secretary resignation/replacement – Next Meeting Date

After discussion of possible options for Secretary, and given Curtis' absence for the next meeting, there was a discussion about a possible change to the meeting date.

It was agreed that the next meeting will be **Monday, June 19** in Nanaimo to see if Mondays work better for attendance.

3.4 AGM Agenda

- Nominees for VIRRJA Executive to be elected at Oct 14th AGM. Rorke, Wraite, and Jewsbury have terms that expire in October. Tycke (Secretary) and Hunt (President) have terms ending in 2018. Genesis will check with Hunt to see if she wants (or is well enough) to continue. Tycke has already resigned.
NOTE: the intention is to have overlapping terms with the President and Secretary designated for terms ending in even numbered years and the three others ending in odd numbered years.
- Topics for AGM:
 - Brenda Morrison (on the Dalhousie Dental School RJ case) is confirmed, Jessica Rorke on her dissertation on Forgiveness is confirmed
 - Randi Manz may be asked to speak about the workshop she is holding at the end of May
 - FASD – White Crow training director – Myles will check to see if available for AGM and report to Jane by April 25th
 - Trauma informed practice – Jane will check with VIU (if FASD session doesn't work out)

- Crown Counsel Dombrosky (Nanaimo) if the Trauma session doesn't work out (Jane will get back to Gayle to give her time to contact Dombrosky and have answer at June meeting)
- Gayle will contact the Feederal Ombudsperson about possible speaking at the AGM
- Jessica will speak with Jane Osborne about speaking on Elder Abuse.
- Venue
Gail is checking out Chemainus and also possibly the Cowichan Community Centre or a local church.

4. Membership Report - Gail Jewsbury

Gail will send out a letter to those members who have not renewed membership for 2017.

That the Membership Report be received as presented.

CARRIED

5 Financial Report - Gail Jewsbury

There is a current balance of \$5,487.

That the Financial Report be received as presented

CARRIED

6 Adjournment