



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD**  
*PO Box 40927, Olympia, WA 98504-0927*  
*(360) 407-1050*

**Minutes**  
**Sex Offender Policy Board**  
**Office of the Attorney General**  
**800- 5th Ave. 20th FL**  
**Seattle, WA 98104**  
**January 15, 2009**

**Member Present:**

Sheriff Mark Brown  
Ann Marie Aylward  
Brad Meryhew  
Bev Emery  
Mary Ellen Stone  
Maureen Saylor  
Jeri Costa  
Andrea Piper  
Andrew Neiditz

**Staff Present**

Jean Soliz-Conklin  
Andi May  
Stevie Peterson  
Gerry Ring Erickson

**Others Present**

Amy Pearson, Office of Crime Victims Advocacy; Dr Carey Sturgeon, DSHS  
Special Commitment Center; (filling in for Henry Richards) Lisa Johnson, King  
County, Senior Deputy prosecuting Attorney

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman and vice chair were absent. The Motion was made by Sheriff Mark Brown to have Kecia Rongen act as chair and seconded by Brad Meryhew.

## **2. INTRODUCTIONS**

The Board members, staff and other interested parties introduced themselves. Lisa Johnson, who is a Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the Criminal Division in King County, explained that she is attending in Russ's absence.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 10, 2008** Approval of the minutes was tabled until a later meeting. Jean explained that she is too busy with the legislative session and that these minutes will be caught up after a Program Director is hired.

## **4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Hiring Update – SOPB Staff

Jean reported to the Board that she had hired a criminal attorney named Shoshana

Kehoe to serve as the Interim program Director and that she would begin work on

February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Kehoe's references were very positive and she is interested in policy work.

- Budget –Governors' Budget Proposal

The Board was informed that the Governor's budget proposal kept fund for the

SOPB in tact, with some adjustments downward for efficiencies.

- December 5 and January 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Testimony

Testimony by Russ and Jean went well in front of the policy committees: the House Public safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee.

- WATSA 2009 Conference

Maureen Saylor described the conference scheduled for the last weekend in February. Members decided the SOPB could support attendance by Kecia, Brad and

Anmarie. Maureen asked Jean to do the Saturday Luncheon Speech, focusing on

the history of the SOPB and sex offender sentencing in Washington.

## **5. 2008 REPORT TO THE WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE**

The report approved by the Board on December 29, has been delivered. Staff asked

Board members to let Andi know if they wished to have copies delivered anywhere.

## **6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **• Sex Offenders in the Community Report**

The Subcommittee was briefly told about the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center proposal entitled "Increasing Guardianship Against Sex Offenders In The Community: A 3-Year Pilot Project To Increase The Level Of Prevention Skills In Neighborhoods Impacted By Sex Offenders". Mary Ellen, however, explained that KCSARC would not be pursuing any additional funding this year due to the budget picture.

A discussion was held regarding the utility of working with landlords. Andrew said that Lakewood has an active program of educating landlords. Further discussion will be held in the Subcommittee with reports to the Board.

Doug Levy from the City of Everett was to have presented the City of Everett Local Sex Offender Task Force final report and recommendations, with an introduction from Andrew Neiditz. That presentation was cancelled because Mr. Levy was unavailable.

This issue triggered a conversation about whether the Board was ready for and/or willing to endorse policies or proposals. There was acknowledgement that the SOPB is to provide a "forum" function and yet concern that the Board is in no way ready to know what is a "best practice" or not.

The discussion then turned to whether the Board should develop a process for responding to requests to review practices. It was decided that a process would help the Board control its workload and be fair to the public, while meeting statutory duties.

Mary Ellen Stone made a motion to create an Ad Hoc Committee on a review process which would report to the Board next month. Bev seconded the motion.

The group agreed that Mary Ellen and Bev should comprise the committee, supported by Jean and Shoshana when she begins work.

A motion was then made by Mary Ellen Stone to refer the request by Doug Levy from Everett to the Sex Offenders in the Community Subcommittee. Anmarie Aylward seconded the motion.

- **Benchmarks Subcommittee Report**

At the suggestion of Brad Meryhew, the Benchmarks Subcommittee report was moved ahead of the Registration Subcommittee report. Brad reported that the Benchmarks Subcommittee has narrowed their focus to supervision and reentry of adult offenders. He noted that the model assessment protocol from the Center for Sex Offender Management has 260 questions for supervision and 180 questions for reentry assessment. He said the subcommittee is committed to intensive stakeholder involvement and evidence-based approaches to data collection.

A discussion followed about how narrow the concept of "evidence-based" practices should be. The Washington State Institute for Public Policy was unable to meet with the Registration Subcommittee, but we know their definition is very narrow. While that Subcommittee hopes to contract with them, it may be that we need criteria to allow a review of a larger universe of best practices information. That discussion will continue in various subcommittees. The research also needs to consider the collateral consequences of policies, in addition to key topics such as the impact on recidivism.

- **Sex Offender Registration and Notification Subcommittee Report**

Kecia reported that the subcommittee is not yet ready to propose a contract with WSIPP for meta-analysis of sex offender registration research, because they had not yet been able to meet with the institute. Anmarie moved to delay that issue until the next meeting, after the subcommittee met again. The motion was seconded by Mary Ellen.

Next, the group discussed the fact that the subcommittee had talked about the state's position on the Adam Walsh Act. The subcommittee will report in full to the Board next month.

## **7. LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

The Board will discuss its functioning during the upcoming legislative session.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

At this time there were no public comments

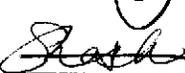
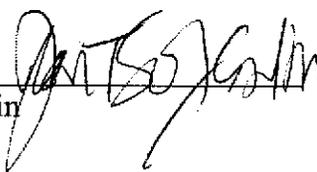
**9. MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Board confirmed its meeting schedule to the third Thursday of every month from 1:30-4:00 in the Seattle area.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE SEX OFFENDER POLICY BOARD**

 _____	<u>4-16-2009</u> _____
Russ Hauge	Date
  _____	<u>4-16-2009</u> _____
Jean Soliz-Conklin	Date