

MEETING MINUTES
District of Columbia Corrections Information Council
Open Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, 2013 6:30 – 8:00 pm
Martin Luther King Jr. Library
901 G Street, Conference Room 221, NW
Washington, DC 20001

I. Call to Order

The CIC Open Meeting was called to order at 6:46pm by Chairman Michelle Bonner at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 901 G Street, Conference Room 221, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

II. Ascertainment of Quorum

Board Members present (Michelle Bonner, Rev. Samuel Whittaker), constituting a quorum. Staff personnel present Cara Compani (Program Analyst) Katharine Huffman (en route).

III. Adoption of the Agenda

- a. The agenda was adopted unanimously.

IV. Hope Village – Extended release date for report

- a. The CIC is hoping to release the Hope Village by the end of March. When the is release it will be a public document and posted just like the open meeting notices.
- b. Does anyone have any additional information? NO
- c. Yolanda Jackson had a question in regards to alternative programs etc. She wanted to know what will come about the findings and assessments and operations of Hope Village. Michelle Bonner stated that, the court mandates that the CIC inspect and report on federal prison and hallways houses, which includes certain liabilities, document review, and helping with security measures. These inspections are for informational purposes.

V. USP Beaumont

- a. Rev. Whittaker visited USP Beaumont on a two day notice (they had just come off of lock down) the officials at the USP Beaumont welcomed the CIC and took him on a tour of the facility. He saw the education, medical facility, and legal law library and explained the legal process. USP Beaumont explained that they have a bad reputation because of the Hispanic and African American gangs; they are working on changing the cultural there. Rev. Whittaker was able to speak with 3 DC inmates in a closed private room. They were all happy that someone from Washington, DC was there to see them so they well overwhelmed. Rev Whittaker shared with them about the advocacy groups here in DC, and that are trying to help them. The inmates most complaint was they do not receive the Washington Post and they lose touch of what's going on back home.

- b. This was not an inspection, the inspection process is much more comprehensive, documents would be collected and we would have reached out to the people here in DC for additional information.

VI. FCI Fairton

- a. The CIC is currently seeking information on FCI Fairton. They have received information from individuals currently incarcerated there, but would like additional information from the public and former inmates. Information obtained from received from anyone will not be shared, so if anyone knows of someone who may have information the CIC would be happy to talk to them. Currently the CIC has 2 community outreach interns gathering information from people who have been at Fairton before.
- b. The CIC visited FCI Fairton on March 5, 2013. One the visit C. Compani and Rev. Whittaker conducted 17 interviews. During the tours we are always escorted and when we talk with inmates there is always an attorney present.
- c. Questions asked by the general public: Does the CIC have access to the information of the inmates that have been released within the last 2 years? Cara Compani –no we do not have access to that, the CIC obtains most of their information from the inmates inside the facility. The inmates are provided with a letter in regards to the inspection, a flyer and a consent form prior to the inspection

VII. FCI Manchester & USP McCreary

- a. April 15,2013 – USP McCreary inspection
- b. April 16,2013 – FCI Manchester inspection
- c. 191 letters have been sent out to inmates at these facilities and the CIC received over 40 letters from inmates that want to talk to CIC. The selection process to talking to inmates is random because we don't have enough time to interview everyone.

VIII. Video Visitation at DC Jail

- a. At the end of August the DC jail stopped the use of non-contact visit (through the use of flexi glass) visitation; now they are using a form of Skype. On March 16 and 23 the CIC went to the DC jail. The CIC went through the process as visitors and were able to talk with inmates that day.

IX. CIC Budget Oversight Hearing

- a. The CIC will submit their budge at the hearing April 10,2013
- b. CIC received a budget increase of \$15,000
- c. The total proposed budget is \$143,000

X. Community Outreach Intern

Chose Sherman Justice, intern present

XI. Questions / Comments

XII. Schedule Next CIC open meeting and set open meeting schedule.

- a. The next CIC open meeting will be held, Tuesday , May 14,2014 at 6:30pm

XIII. Vote to Close Remainder of Meeting, pursuant to DC Code 2-575(c)(1)

Pursuant to DC Code 2-575(c)(1) the board of the CIC will vote to close the remainder of the meeting to discuss training and development of CIC board members and staff. DC Code 2-575(b)(12).

XIV. Closed Session of Meeting (if approved by majority of CIC Board)

XV. Adjournment

- a. There being no further business, Board Chair Michelle Bonner declared the meeting adjourned by unanimous consent.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

CLOSED MEETING

I. Closed Session of Meeting (approved by majority of CIC Board)

II. Adjournment (Board Chair)