

DC Corrections Information Council

MEETING MINUTES FOR OPEN MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016, 2901 14ST Street NW @ 6:00pm

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Phylisa Carter called meeting to order on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 @ 6:04 pm.

ROLL CALL

Phylisa Carter Chairperson, Katherine Huffman Board Member, Michelle Bonner Executive Director.
Staff attendees; Laura de las Casas, Tiffany Culley, Philip Mosby and board member Charles Thornton.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER OF CIC BOARD

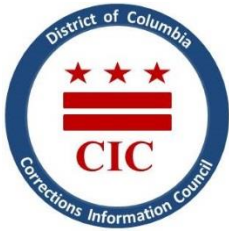
Mr. Charles Thornton is the new Board Member. Charles will be sworn in on Thursday, December 13, 2016 @4:45pm at 441 4th Street – Judiciary Square on the first floor. When he is sworn in the board will be at full capacity. A picture should be taken with the Mayor to be put on our website. CIC will then become a fully functioning board, and the staff can continue to accomplish many things we have planned in the future.

EXPANSION OF CIC BOARD

Judiciary Kenyon McDuffie ominous criminal justice bill was included with the nomination of Charles Thornton and also the other provision was an expansion of the Board members from three (3) to five (5) members. This has been an issue that has been raised by CIC at least a couple of time in years past. McDuffie did not move on it previously. But decided to throw it into this bill and let the Mayor appoint three (3) CIC Board members and the City Council appoint two (2) members.

Any further comments about the expansion of the CIC Board?

None



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INSPECTIONS AND CIC REPORTS

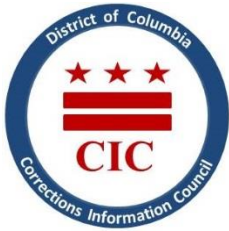
Address the Reports first and the Inspections second. The Bureau of Prisons is currently reviewing the draft inspection FCI Allenwood that was done in late February 2016. As you know we have backlog and it is challenging because the BOP has a minimum of thirty (30) days to review draft and respond to reports. So while they have Allenwood, CI Rivers is in the queue for them. So Rivers report was a combination of inspections done in FY 2014 and FY 2015. And to see if any information has changed the program analysts have sent surveys. We are reviewing to see if any changes have occurred.

Discussion as to whether we can do it before inauguration, during or after. There is an expert psychologist who has a lot of experience in criminal justice and Corrections in particular, he has worked at Rikers. The idea was to take an expert into our inspections. We had done so with our Tucson inspection back in September. Taila Lewis, who helped with inmates disabilities is an expert on deaf and hear of hearing. Talia provided a lot of insight and great questions on that inspection. There was one DC gentlemen who was deaf and we had 4 four interpreters there to speak to him in Tucson. In Tucson they have a relay interpreter system they just set up. It would be great to take another expert to Lewisburg because we got a lot of feedback from Lewisburg in 2014. BOP changes that have been made in SMU since August 2016. Also take a psychologist who can analyze in terms of mental health issues. Having a mental health expert with you would be helpful. It would allow you to help the guys by asking mental health staff about different approaches to how BOP handles it in the prison system. Also how they approach staff with mental staff issues providing health care.

The first is to have the expert go in. How did this person get here? The second is to try to use release form, get people who are SMU now or recently been. Allowing us to look at records while there, we can do due diligence. Look into the records while we are there it is in the MOU. If we see somebody while there we can look into the records to find out why. Is BOP sharing approaches cross the Board? If so, because we are going to different facilities, we are seeing different practices in different places and things are highlighted. It seems to be a good approach.

So this week you should be receiving the combined 2013 and 2014 report. Two interns whose last days was December 8, 2016, Alexis Wilsuz and Mabel Tejada from the Washington Center Interns. They have been great. Also we had Clinton Oxford from Georgetown Law School who has been tremendous in helping us with the 2016 Department of Corrections report. They have been working really long and hard. But the goal is to get the draft and to get the 2016 report out. Because we have more people, we have been collecting information with the eye towards getting the report out.

Any further comments on Inspections and CIC Reports?



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None

CIC PROJECTS/EVENTS

The Postcards events have been inviting. We have had an event at the Washington Convention Center where the interns live at the dorms. So we decided on Postcards so there would not be an issue about what is inside or what does it say. Random names are given to people. Mabel has been dynamo in scheduling. We will try to get some this week. We are trying to review and make sure information going out is correct. The Wire would be a good connect. Other Community Outreach organizations can be notified next time and send out emails letting people know.

We have gotten a handful of offensive cards. That is why we want to review them first. Example we had a person say "DC Do or Die" that is offensive. That would mean that one person did not receive a card because of another not knowing why? So deciphering what is acceptable and what is not means that reading each individual card helps. Maybe something that innocuous or sending something that the BOP would not be able to control.

Tiffany is leaving us. But Tiffany has provided so much and that was one of the reasons that she was brought on and is calm. We need to be able to provide statistical analysis with some of the data that we used before and continue to use. We will continue to grow. She started a good foundation for us. She also was good at implementing OCTO to get us a database management system up and running. We are almost there. We just got finished with the MOU. Hopefully, next quarter they will spend that money building it up. Tiffany has basically put together all the information needed for that. Setting up the foundation for that and also in the future. So thank you very much for that. That was not an easy task. She will also be available for a month or so if needed, for database analysis. IF we need her we can reach out.

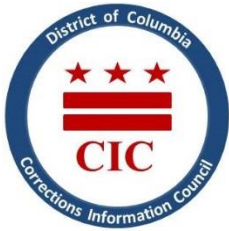
Any further comments on CIC/Events?

None

OTHER

The Mayor has put out there to all its agencies about things or changes that people would be concerned about, certainly funding issues. We have gotten \$75,000 for data management system this fiscal year. There is hope that we have an MOU in place. It is a sense that it has to be confirmed by the Senate. It is a small confirmation hearing. It will be interesting to see who will be chosen.

Any further comments?



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None

SCHEDULE NEXT CIC OPEN MEETING

We will certainly have one within the next quarter, and will contact board members and try to schedule a good date for that. Would you like to have the meeting before or after the budget and performance hearings that will be happening in February 2017? Just keep that in mind and we will post it.

Any further comments?

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Phylisa Carter, Chairperson declared this meeting closed at 6:52pm