

GRAFTON COUNTY JAIL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Office of the Commissioners
3855 Dartmouth College Highway
N. Haverhill, NH 03774
Wednesday, December 13, 2006

PRESENT: Commissioner Bill Gabler, Executive Director Julie Clough, Superintendent Glenn Libby, Lieutenant Tom Elliott, Sheriff Doug Dutile and Consultant Rod Miller, CRS

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

The committee discussed the need for better communications within and between both teams. Supt. Libby stated that in the past couple months he had not been certain of what was going on. Rod Miller commented that there are many different entities involved from the SMRT end and maybe a flowchart of where we are at and who is doing what would be helpful. Supt. Libby commented that a flowchart would be helpful, but beyond that there should be an established single point of contact for each team. He stated that Commissioner Gabler is the Chairman of the Criminal Justice Steering Committee, but that much of the work comes down to the Executive Director and himself and that it is imperative that Executive Director Clough and he know what is going on. Superintendent Libby stated that he felt that the Executive Director should be the single point of contact for the County and then can relay information to the balance of the team.

Commissioner Gabler concurred that the Executive Director should be the contact. He stated that his future was somewhat unknown at this time and it made the most sense for all communications to go through Executive Director Clough.

Mr. Miller stated that the County has a Contract with SMRT and that Arthur Thompson is the single point of contact for them. He stated that Arthur may chose to reassign that to Dennis Jud who is in the office on a regular basis, but that would be up to Arthur.

Mr. Miller apologized for the confusion, Supt. Libby stated that it wasn't so much confusion, but just wanted to ensure that everyone is on the same page so that we can do the best possible job and that communication is key to that.

The group discussed the need for a bi-weekly newsletter that would provide regular updates to key individuals. Mr. Miller pointed out that each issue could chose a focus point and expand in detail. Mr. Miller will speak to the Corrections staff tomorrow and also invited an Sheriff's Department personnel to be part of that. This will be to update staff on process and where we are at.

Mr. Miller commented that we are coming to a critical point in the process and some key decisions are going to need to be made in the near future and it is important that everyone is on the same page for these important decisions.

The group discussed the upcoming Criminal Justice Steering Committee meeting and reviewed the agenda, that meeting will take place later this morning. This meeting will be to more specifically discuss strategies and policies which will affect the number of beds that will ultimately be decided upon to be built.

Commissioner Gabler commented that the idea of building for 10 years with the availability to expand after that has already been discussed by the Delegation (he and the previous Chair Susan Almy have had a discussion about that possibility) and that needs to be taken into account. The delegation will be looking at the bottom line of the budget. Mr. Miller commented that those numbers will be staggering. It was a consensus that education of the delegation needs to continue.

Superintendent Libby stated that a commitment to philosophy needs to be pushed. We will be building a facility based on a philosophy and policies need to be developed and put into place that will ensure that facility continues to operate on that philosophy. Mr. Miller agreed it was a commitment to a vision.

The group agreed that continuing to educate and communicate with committee members, staff and the Delegation would need to be on-going and that the bi-weekly newsletter would be developed and a specific point would be chosen to focus on for each issue.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 AM.