

FAMILY VIOLENCE COORDINATING COUNCIL
February 25, 2009
ROOM 14, POTOMAC BUILDING
5:00 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

Council in Attendance: Judge Karen Abrams, Tim Cameron, Rona Harding, John Helldorfer, Laura Joyce, Kathy Lacer, Lanny Lancaster, Kathleen OBrien, Ella May Russell, Sue Sabo, Elizabeth Schaeffer, Christina Taylor, Craig Thomas, Mike Thompson, and Julie Yingling.

Absent: Sheriff Cameron, Brian Cedar, Rona Harding, Judge John Slade, and James Tanavage.

Guests: Heather Bauer, Sheriffs Office.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Kathleen OBrien at 5:09 p.m.

I. Approval of Minutes:

Ella May Russell requested Council approval of the December 3, 2008 Meeting Minutes. Elizabeth Schaeffer seconded the motion. Council voted and meeting minutes were duly approved.

II. Status Reports/Announcements:

Kathleen OBrien introduced Kathy Lacer as a new council member. Kathy has replaced Kathleen Lyons as the Board of Education representative.

Kathleen announced that a Memorial was held in Annapolis, Maryland on February 2, 2009 to honor domestic violence victims. Fifty-two (52) Marylanders died as a result of domestic violence last year. Kathleen stated that Governor O'Malley has proposed bills that would allow judges to confiscate guns from the subjects of temporary protective orders. He also wants judges to be required to take them after final protective orders are issued.

Kathleen OBrien stated that Senator Barbara A. Mikulski called for the Senate Finance Committees stimulus package to include relief for state budgets to avoid cuts to critical priorities for low-income Americans.

III. Review of questions addressed to Court Commissioner

Kathleen OBrien opened the floor for comments about the questions that the Court Commissioner addressed. Some of the concerns were on-going training for court commissioners, the turnover rates for court commissioners, and continuity of training for court commissioners. It was suggested that both the FVCC members and local court commissioners receive joint training.

V. Next Meeting / Adjournment

Next Meeting:

The next FVCC meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 14 of the Potomac Building.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Karen Gates, Recording Secretary

Fatality Review

The FVCC began its fatality review.