



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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COMMISSION
Room 30
Legislative Plaza
Friday, February 25, 2011
8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Commission Members Present

Cindy Durham, Chair
Marti Herndon, Vice Chair
Phil Acord
Sidney Bynum
Lindsay Callahan
Janell Clark
Joshua Conner
Beverly Cosley
Tim Goldsmith
Trudy Hughes
Susan Lawless-Glassman
Carlton Lewis
Harold Moses Love, Jr.
Tim Perry
Mary Anne Poe
Roland Reid
Dwight Stokes
Nancy Williams

Commission Members Absent

Natasha Blackshear

Leon Caldwell
Erica Gilmore
Denise Hobbs-Coker
Diane Neighbors
Colonel J. A. Robbins
Tawny Spinelli

Guests

Elizabeth Merkel
Southern Strategy Group

Staff Present

Linda O'Neal, Exec Dir
Sumita Banerjee
Cyndy Banks
Beverly Bell
Kimberly Bishop
Pam Brown
Peggy Carter
Steve Chester
Dana Cobb
Lindsey Cody

Susan Cope
Sandra Decker
Fay Delk
Emel Eff
Dominick Grimaldi
Rodger Jowers
Dustin Keller
Richard Kennedy
Ron King
Pamela Kirkpatrick
Bill Latimer
Faye Mangrum
Gerald Papica
Steve Petty
Cheryl Sahlin
Debrah Stafford
Melissa Staley
April Swoner
Pat Wade
Diane Wise
Gwendolyn Wright

I. Welcome and Introductions – Cindy Durham, Chair

Chair Durham called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. welcoming Commission members and staff. Legislative Committee report was moved after other committee reports.

II. Roll Call

Mangrum called roll. A quorum was established.

III. Approval of November 2010 Minutes

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (PERRY) AND SECONDED (HERNDON) TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 2010 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

IV. Executive Committee – Cindy Durham, Chair

Committee met and has no action item.

V. Budget and Data Committee – Dwight Stokes, Chair

Committee had a very productive meeting and has one action item.

O’Neal, Brown and Staley gave informative updates.

Committee reviewed Federal Budget Cuts Position Statement. O’Neal said potential federal budget cuts are alarming asking Commission members who have relationships with staff and/or members of the Senate or House to contact them encouraging them to continue funding for services for children. Cuts are especially devastating to juvenile justice. If approved, statement will be sent as a letter to Senate members. Stokes commented statement is excellent in addressing issues and making Commission’s position clear.

1. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE TCCY FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS POSITION STATEMENT. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Committee approved KIDS COUNT Media Award recipients:

- **Print Media – Small Market**
 - Joel Washburn, *McKenzie Banner*
 - Shirley Nanney, *Carol County News Leader*
- **Broadcast Media – Large Market**
 - News Channel 3 (WREG),
Bruce Moore, News Director
Child Abuse and Neglect Report
 - Nashville Public Television
NPT Reports: Children’s Health Crisis

Durham encouraged Commission members to review Web Stats. TCCY web site continues to get a lot of hits and the KIDS COUNT data center is increasingly getting hits.

VI. Children’s Services Committee – Tim Goldsmith, Chair

Committee met and has no action item.

Committee heard good Ombudsman report. Specialized training Ombudsman provided to the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD) was well received.

Hargrow gave an interesting and informative report on the Second Look Commission (SLC). He has spent considerable time with a large number of people and has interesting things to tell about his visit with Child Protective Services (CPS) Intake Center.

CPORT continues to participate in Quality Service Reviews (QSRs).

The Interagency Agreement Among Tennessee Department of Children's Services (DCS), TCCY, and Tennessee Center for Child Welfare (TCCW) outlining the various duties and obligations for implementing a high quality service review process has been finalized.

VII. Councils Committee – Phil Acord, Chair

Committee met and has no action item. Meeting was productive and reports were great.

Jowers gave an excellent report on program monitoring.

Congratulations to Richard Kennedy, TCCY's new Associate Director.

Kennedy reported on the Children's Caucus. Turnout was wonderful. Participants broke into four groups looking at different issues impacting children across the state and how we can better serve them. Report is being compiled into a presentation and will be included in *The Advocate*. Hopefully, this will set a platform in addressing issues across the state.

Kennedy talked about Children's Advocacy Days (CAD), March 15-16, 2011. Theme is *The Art of Children's Advocacy*. Presenters include commissioners of various child serving departments. Attendance is expected to be around 700. Governor Haslam has been invited. First Lady Crissy Haslam will be there on second day. Other presenters include Dr. Matt Timm, Project Director, Tennessee Voices for Children, and Sam Davidson, President and Co-Founder, Cool People Care.

Committee heard impressive reports from regional coordinators. One of the reasons TCCY has been so successful is the fact that we have this grass roots connection. It is such a wonderful partnership and design and really makes advocacy work. Acord asked regional coordinators to stand and be recognized for the wonderful job they do.

Two regional coordinator positions are vacant. Kathy Daniels, Southeast, retired and Patty Ray, Upper Cumberland, resigned. Vacancies will be filled as soon as possible.

Acord talked about the benefit of all advocacy agencies again working cooperatively in communities saying TCCY would have to take the lead.

Durham encouraged Commission members to attend CAD, register and let Mangrum know their reservation needs. Kennedy will distribute CAD registration link to Commission members.

VIII. Juvenile Justice and Minority Issues Committee – Beverly Cosley, Chair

Committee met and has three action items.

DMC is doing great under the leadership of King. All DMC Task Forces are very busy. Their reports reflect their collaborative efforts, including social networking, Facebook, cultural diversity training and DMC documentaries. School House Adjustment Program Enterprise (S.H.A.P.E.) program in Memphis is teaching Memphis Police Academy their method of outreach.

Stafford gave an update on program monitoring and audit review. Policy 22 Plan including desk top monitoring of grants less than \$100,000 and complete monitoring of grants over \$100,000 has been approved by the Department of Finance and Administration. Two audit findings have been addressed. Program monitoring and management process audit finding was no longer an issue and the unauthorized bank account previously used for CAD was discontinued several years ago.

Cosley expressed appreciation to McKenzie, Taylor and others for all the work they are doing on Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) violations. DSO violations July 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 were 25, up from 22 for same period in 2009. Staff is working very hard providing training and making efforts to keep DSO violations down.

Cosley was the primary representative to the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) and Tim Perry was the alternate. Cosley was pleased to serve on their Annual Report Committee. Copies of the FACJJ Annual Report 2010 were distributed. Report includes information relative to DMC and other issues where TCCY fights hard. In the future, another mechanism other than the report may be used to distribute this information.

Cosley briefed staff on differences in DMC Proposed Budget 2011 and DMC Proposed Budget 2010. DMC Proposed Budget was reduced from \$128,000 in 2010 to \$125,000 in 2011. The 2011 proposal is:

- \$ 16,000 – Juvenile Justice Conferences (increase from \$14,500)
- \$ 60,000 – Internship Program
- \$ 18,000 – Local Community DMC Task Forces
- \$ 2,000 – State/National Conference Representative
- \$ 4,000 – Mileage Reimbursement
- \$ 13,000 – DMC Initiatives (reduced from \$18,000)
- \$ 12,000 – Minority Youth Summit (New)
- \$125,000 – TOTAL

DMC Resource Directory (\$4,500) and Training on Racial Ethnic Identity (\$7,000) were eliminated.

1. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH STATEWIDE DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONFINEMENT TASK FORCE PROPOSED BUDGET 2011 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Committee discussed the Annie E. Casey Foundation starting a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) site in Tennessee. The proposed pilot site would be

Memphis/Shelby County because of the excellent work they are doing with the S.H.A.P.E. program. It is their purpose to ensure a broader perspective, by engaging various counties of the state in revising their approach to juvenile justice processes and adopting the JDAI procedures. TCCY could act as the state-level agency to partner with the Casey Foundation. There would be a statewide JDAI Coordinator, a position that would probably be located in the TCCY Central Office. Durham commented the Memphis/Shelby County Court is/has been working very hard on JDAI. O'Neal added in addition to the S.H.A.P.E. program one of the things that raised the Annie E. Casey Foundation's interest in having a JDAI is the substantial work the Memphis/Shelby County Juvenile Court has done in using the Detention Assessment Tool, which they participated with TCCY and other stakeholders to develop as required by statute several years ago. They were the only site that really picked up the Detention Assessment Tool, used and refined it. Use of the Detention Assessment Tool has had a substantial impact in reducing the number of children who enter their detention center. Combination of all the things happening in Memphis/Shelby County including the DMC Task Force makes the Casey Foundation interested in it being a JDAI pilot site.

2. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE PARTNERING WITH THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION IN STARTING A JUVENILE DETENTION ALTERNATIVES INITIATIVE (JDAI) PILOT SITE IN MEMPHIS/SHELBY COUNTY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH (TCCY) WHICH WILL FURTHER RESEARCH PARTNERS AND OPTIONS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF JDAI. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Committee reviewed/discussed the Federal Budget Proposal and draft letter to Tennessee Senators communicating the distress of TCCY regarding House proposed funding cuts in juvenile justice services in Tennessee and the nation and to urge them to support continuation funding at least at the same level as currently received. Summaries of the important programmatic contributions of these federal funds and listings of the programs that currently receive funding in Tennessee as a result of these federal appropriations will be sent to the Senators with the letter.

3. RECOMMENDATION: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE SENDING THE DRAFT LETTER AND SUMMARIES OF THE IMPORTANT PROGRAMMATIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF THESE FEDERAL FUNDS AND LISTINGS OF THE PROGRAMS THAT CURRENTLY RECEIVE FUNDING IN TENNESSEE AS A RESULT OF THESE FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS TO TENNESSEE SENATORS. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

IX. Audit Committee – Linda O'Neal reported for Natasha Blackshear, Chair

Several of the items the Committee discussed have already been referenced in previous Committee reports.

TCCY had a follow-up audit from the Comptroller's Office to review two findings from the previous audit in 2008:

- Unauthorized bank account for CAD, which we have not had since 2008;

- Program monitoring – Kennedy, Stafford and Baham spent a lot of time with the auditors to make sure they got all the documentation they needed. Auditors decided the monitoring finding has also been addressed and is no longer an issue.

TCCY Chair Durham and Audit Committee Chair Natasha Blackshear participated in the telephone exit conference and we are looking forward to receiving a written report.

Jowers reported on grant monitoring. Grant monitoring process is well in hand continuing the good work previously demonstrated. TCCY should have no further problems complying with all monitoring requirements. We worked with the system to monitor very small grants in a more efficient manner.

Copies of the Financial Integrity Act 2010 Risk and Controls Review were distributed. TCCY does a thorough job with Shared Services looking at risks, what level they are and their manageability.

O’Neal reported an instance of fraud and abuse within the agency saying we are sorry to have that happen. Someone took one of the state cars over the weekend, kept the keys for a couple of days before anonymously returning them. Approximately 400 miles were put on the state car. We do not know who did this but regret responsible person was not forthcoming in acknowledging that he/she had taken the car. Incident was reported to the Comptroller’s Office and documents they requested regarding entrance/exit to the building, etc., over that weekend have been sent to them. Fortunately, Fuelman card and keys were returned. We will await further response from the Comptroller’s Office regarding any additional steps we need to take. This will be a new item in our Financial Integrity Act Risk and Controls for next year. When we hear further from the Comptroller’s Office, information will be shared.

X. Director’s Report – Linda O’Neal

O’Neal distributed article from Tennessee State University where Commission Member Harold Moses Love, Jr. was named Nashvillian of the Year. He was recognized for the work he and his congregation were engaged in after the floods in Nashville.

Congratulations to Natasha Blackshear for being named in the Nashville Post January/February 2011 publication, 101 Top Lawyers, as one of the two top public finance lawyers in Nashville.

O’Neal thanked staff (Backus, Baham, Bell, Cope, Haynes, Mangrum, Sahlin and Taylor) for helping with set-up and clean-up for Thursday’s luncheon.

TCCY is proud of Sukti Maldas who became a U.S. citizen in January. Staley went to the ceremony.

Regional coordinators continue to do a great job. Several of them have had legislative events and others have them soon. The two regional coordinator vacancies will be filled as soon as possible. An exception to the hiring freeze will be requested and we will go through the process of getting registers opened so positions can be filled. We appreciate the regional coordinators bringing people in for CAD and all the activities they do across the agency.

Juvenile justice staff continues to do a good job. In recent weeks we have talked about ways we can do an even better job with grants management, monitoring process, etc.

DMC efforts have moved along. TCCY is very grateful to Commission Member Stokes for his leadership and for King and all the DMC Task Forces that come together on a regular basis to work on DMC statewide and in the regions.

CPORT staff continues to be very flexible in their collaboration with the Department of Children's Services (DCS). Changes in supervision within DCS have improved collaboration for the Quality Service Review (QSR) process. CPORT staff continues to be involved in not only the regular reviews but mini reviews and are in the planning stages for the Youth Development Center reviews this summer. Commission members were encouraged to shadow. Those who have shadowed found the experience to be worthwhile. Their participation is appreciated and we look forward to it continuing. O'Neal met with the new DCS Commissioner, who is very interested in shadowing the process.

Ombudsmen continue to handle cases and produce positive results. They did training for the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities' (DIDD) office as they are planning to create an ombudsman service.

KIDS COUNT continues to be an incredible resource. O'Neal, Banerjee and Petty have been meeting with legislators concentrating on officers in the committees that hear legislation of most concern to the Commission as well as new legislators. One of the new legislators thinks KIDS COUNT is wonderful.

Recent edition of *The Advocate* focused on Home Visiting. Staff is working on another newsletter.

This year instead of just doing positions, Legislative Impact Statements were prepared. Petty, Banerjee, Hargrow, Kennedy and field placement students Anne Marie Dudas and Kimberly Bishop did an excellent job preparing these. Impact Statements were much more thorough because a broad base of people took the time to do some research and put things together. We plan to continue this process moving forward.

Council on Children's Mental Health (CCMH) continues to be active. Legislation to continue CCMH is in the Sunset process this year. At the CCMH meeting last week, we had the most attendees (89) that we have ever had at a meeting. TCCY has been really gratified by this whole process. These stakeholders are people concerned about children's mental health who come from all across the state. We do not pay travel but do provide lunch. There continues to be a lot of interest in moving CCMH forward.

Resource Mapping (RM) is going forward. All but a couple of state agencies have submitted their data for Fiscal Year 2009 and Fiscal Year 2010. Staley kept pushing about the issue of where the Basic Education Program (BEP) dollars were in the data previously submitted. In January we finally figured out the Department of Education (DOE) that provides the most detailed information of any of the state agencies had been so focused on getting all their program and service information submitted, they had left out the multi-billion dollar BEP funding that goes directly to the local education agencies. Staley, Eff and Brown made

updates to the Resource Mapping report and the updated report has been posted on the TCCY web site.

Children's Caucus was a good event. TCCY will be doing a newsletter summarizing results of caucus.

Second Look Commission will have its second meeting March 7, 2011. Subcommittee has met several times to try and figure out the best way to review cases of children who have experienced second or subsequent instances of abuse. TCCY is proud to have Hargrow as SLC director and appreciate the work he did in helping prepare Legislative Impact Statements.

Home Visitation is an area where TCCY continues to be involved. Banerjee has been our primary liaison on this effort. The Department of Health (DOH) is required each year to file a report with the legislature regarding Home Visiting programs. Statue requires them to file that report and also requires them to consult with TCCY in that process. We have been through that process and have provided letter in the report regarding our involvement.

TCCY continues to move forward with fiscal issues; Latimer takes care of all our computers; support staff (Mangrum, Decker, Baham and Tolliver) are really invaluable for TCCY in keeping on track; and Staley is doing some of our accounting things as we continue to struggle with how we can reduce the amount of time Shared Services has to spend working for the Commission because the amount of time they spend exceeds the number of hours contracted and TCCY does not have the money to pay more. Therefore, we are engaged in efforts to figure out how we can streamline and improve efficiency complying with requirements but reducing use of Shared Services time. Staley is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and her involvement with our budget also helps her do our resource mapping part. We really appreciate the work she has done.

O'Neal has been meeting with the new commissioners. She and Keller met with Commissioner of Mental Health, Doug Varney. She met with Commissioner Raquel Hatter, Department of Human Services, and has met several times with Kate O'Day, DCS Commissioner. We are very pleased they are going to be a part of CAD and are very excited about the ideas and openness they all seem to have to working with the Commission and making improvements within their departments in terms of the services they provide for children.

O'Neal said TCCY has absolutely great staff who is engaged in a whole range of efforts at the regional and state level acknowledging them for what they do.

XI. Grant Review Committee – Trudy Hughes, Chair

Committee had a great meeting. Thanks to all TCCY staff for joining the Committee to provide training. Committee originally started out with 12 members. Thanks to Commission members agreeing to serve, current Committee is largest ever. This is wonderful! Two Committee members left the Commission (Strickland resigned and Caldwell will be leaving the end of June) so if anyone is inclined to volunteer, please let Hughes know. There is still time to be trained. Committee will be looking at the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) grant proposals prior to the May Commission meeting. Typically, Committee

reviews Title V proposals but no information on these grants has been received at this point. Federal Formula grant proposals will be reviewed later in the year. Training powerpoint presentation will be distributed to Committee members not attending training via email with information on what was discussed and dates/plans for upcoming meetings. Thanks to all Committee members for the great work they are doing.

Break 9:25 a.m.

Durham called meeting back to order at 9:45 a.m.

XII. Legislative Committee – Tim Goldsmith reporting for Diane Neighbors, Chair

Durham thanked TCCY staff for preparing Legislative Impact Statements and positions and the Legislative Committee for coming in early to review pending legislation.

O’Neal announced that Legislative Committee Minutes distributed yesterday should have been dated February 24, 2011 and Craig Hargrow should have been listed as staff present. Minutes will be corrected. If there are additional changes, let her know.

Committee met Thursday morning, February 24, 2011, 8:00 a.m., to review bills, impact statements and discuss/prepare recommendations. They met again at 12:00 noon on new bills that had come in. Committee Minutes of both meetings including summaries of individual bills, changes in current law, impact statement, recommended positions and action taken by the Committee were previously distributed to Commission members.

Goldsmith presented the February 24 Committee Minutes summarizing bills, changes in current law, impact statement and TCCY Legislative Committee recommended position to the Commission for action. He called for questions on bills and/or recommended positions/reasons for positions by the Legislative Committee opening the floor for discussion stating any bills with concerns/questions would be pulled for separate consideration. Requests were made to pull the following bills, which were discussed and voted on separately:

- **SB 1078 (Gresham)/HB 1494 (McDaniel)** – State Summary: As introduced, clarifies that performance requirements or incentives in contracts or grants between state entities and providers of services related to prevention, treatment or care of delinquent juveniles are allowed to ensure that the initial amount of the grant or contract does not decrease, nor financial penalties accrue to the grant or contract recipients based on performance requirements.

MOTION: THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION OPPOSE SB 1078/HB 1494. CARRIED. ACORD, GOLDSMITH, PERRY AND STOKES RECUSED.

- **SB 0618 (Campfield)/HB 0110 (Hardaway) - Penalties for parents of unruly and truant children.** Requires parents or guardians of truant children found to be unruly by a juvenile court judge due to at least 5 inadequate absences from school, to perform 14 hours of community service for each day the child was absent without adequate excuse and a fine up to 50 dollars, instead of up to a total of five hours of community service or a

fine up to 50 dollars. Requires parents of unruly children to also attend counseling, mentoring, or parenting classes. Requires unruly children to attend counseling or mentoring classes. Creates a task force on truancy with certain duties and membership requirements.

- **MOTION: THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT SB 0618/HB 0110. CARRIED. STOKES RECUSED.**
- **SB 0117/HB 0423 – Equally shared parenting in best interest of the child.** Requires there to be a rebuttable presumption that equally shared parenting is in the best interest of the child, unless the court finds by a preponderance of evidence to the contrary or where the parents have agreed to a different custody arrangement.
- **MOTION: THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION OPPOSE SB 0117/HB 0423. CARRIED. STOKES RECUSED.**

RECOMMENDATION: THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE ALL OTHER RECOMMENDED POSITIONS SET FORTH IN THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2011. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Commission Member Clark thanked the Commission for Impact Statement about domestic violence.

O’Neal reported all TCCY Minutes are posted ON TCCY’s web site. Legislative Update that goes out every Friday has a column indicating the Commission has a position. If the Commission does have a position, position abbreviations will be listed. Bills to talk about during CAD have not been selected other than we know we will be advocating for the continuation of TCCY and CCMH. We will probably continue to distribute the Adam Walsh Act Sex Offender Registration information and information on bills around bullying/other issues will be pulled out to share with people at CAD. Staff uses the Legislative Update as a guide in working with legislators. When we support legislation, we talk with legislators in their offices and testify in committees. It is not unusual particularly in Children and Family Affairs Committee in the House for someone to say TCCY has a position and we will go forward to testify what our position is. This also happens some in Senate General Welfare Committee and sometimes in the Finance, Ways and Means Committee. When we have opposition to legislation, we talk with legislators about our concerns and sometimes they are willing to amend bills to address our concerns and sometimes not.

XIII. Chair’s Report – Cindy Durham

Durham previously distributed Chair’s Report via email.

O’Neal’s Bi-Annual Evaluation has been completed. Durham encouraged Commission members to review reviewer’s comments regarding things they can do to help. Commission will continue to work on securing more equitable salaries for TCCY staff because they value what staff do and want to make sure TCCY staff are paid at a comparable level to other state employees. The state’s recent Financial Management Policy was very restrictive and talked

about holding down costs as much as possible but Commission will continue to work on this issue.

Commission Member Joy Strickland resigned. She found her commitment to her work was keeping her away from meetings. Notice of Vacancy will be completed and Governor's Office will be approached regarding a replacement for her. She was Secretary for the Commission. Durham will be asking for volunteers to serve on Nominating Committee. If anyone is interested in being the Secretary for the Commission, please let Durham know.

Commission Member Leon Caldwell accepted a position with the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which is very exciting for him, TCCY and anyone else who works with the Casey Foundation through their programs. His term will expire June 30, 2011 and he will need to be replaced.

Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Conference will be May 21-24. Three Commission Members have expressed interest in attending. If anyone else is interested, please let Durham know. Out-of-state travel is very restricted at this time but we hope one other Commission member besides Durham will be able to attend. Conference is always good and Hill visits are done on Tuesday after the conference. This year will be particularly important for Hill visits since we have several new congressional members.

Durham has had several conversations with Frank Mix, the new QSR director with DCS. She reported he acknowledged the great work CPOR staff does and how much he has really enjoyed working with them.

Durham acknowledged Juvenile Justice staff for working really hard on everything they do.

Commission members not currently on the distribution list for the DMC Task Force in their area were encouraged to let King know so they could be added and receive those emails.

Commission members not receiving information from their Regional Coordinator should let them know to add them to the Council's distribution list. It really makes a difference to regional coordinators when Commission members attend their meetings.

Durham encouraged Commission members to attend CAD

Next Commission meeting is May 19-20, 2011, in Nashville.

XIV. Other Business

Commission members/O'Neal discussed:

- ✓ House Resolution 1 proposing funding cuts for juvenile justice services in Tennessee and the nation and how to request support for continuing funding.
- ✓ SB 0725/HB 1007 proposing abolishment of special joint oversight committees. Position approved by the Commission supports continuing the Select Committee on Children and Youth (SCCY). SCCY has made a tremendous difference over the years in bringing together House and Senate members and various committees to focus on children's issues; is good about engaging communities across the state; has provided a lot of leadership; helps bring a proactive focus to the General Assembly; and works with the

administration/others. Contacts with Lt. Governor Ramsey, Speaker Beth Harwell and members of the Government Operations Committee, would be helpful to express to them the benefit of SCCY. Letters to Lt. Governor Ramsey and Speaker Harwell would also be helpful.

Durham encouraged Commission members to watch *Me Facing Life: Cynothia's Story*, an amazing documentary about a young woman living in Tennessee's women's prison who was convicted of murder at the age of 16. She has turned her life around giving evidence children can be rehabilitated. Documentary will air March 1 on NPT. There will also be a public showing tomorrow, February 26, 2:30 p.m., Nashville Public Library, Downtown, followed by a panel discussion.

Acord acknowledged TCCY regional coordinators distribute *Compilation of Selected Laws on Children and Youth* throughout their regions to bring to everyone's mind all the many things the Commission does including physical tasks to move the issues of children and youth forward in our state.

Herndon announced Tennessee Association for Education of Youth Children will have a statewide meeting in Memphis October 12-14. On October 13 Marian Wright Edelman, Children's Defense Fund, will be the keynote speaker.

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED (HERNDON) AND SECONDED (HUGHES) TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by:

Minutes Approved by:

Faye Mangrum, Executive Secretary 2

Cynthia A. Durham, Chair

H DRIVE/SHARED FILES/COMMISSION/MINUTES