

## Greene County CYS Advisory Board Meeting Minutes February 13, 2024

Called to Order by Jeanette Kline: 9:02a.m.

Current Status of CYS(Beth):

- Aaron Houser has changed from CASA to Growing Up Greene. It has the same mission and same work. An independent Childrens Charity Organization.

Till he comes up with his training and can train his new volunteers, no new cases will be given to him at the moment. The CASA volunteers are still there along with his older cases.

Aaron has revamped his new building with contractors to re do the building for a new program that makes a new home setting for kids that are removed from their homes. They now have a place that is more comfortable for the child/children and the caseworkers.

(Video from Aaron Houser, Beth Booker, Contractor, Commissioner Betsy McClure and previous Commissioner Mike Belding was viewed of new accommodations)

- Aaron Houser has also put together a project that was funded by Consol Energy a program that enlists a therapy dog program with Growing Up Greene. Her name is Coalbie. She has gone through the training and visits the CYS office once a week. Aaron is her trainer and she was adopted through the GC Humane Society. Coalbie is able to go into schools and has helped in a couple court hearings already. Aaron has also written a book about the journey of Foster Care through the eyes of Coalbie with all the people she has met along the way for her to get to this point. The books are on sale at Amazon and all proceeds go to Growing Up Greene. The books can also be bought and donated to CYS for the children taken into Foster Care.

Ongoing Conflicts of CYS (Beth):

- Staffing is a repetitive conflict. We do have caseworker and supervisor positions open and they are posted for interviews.
- We still need an attorney. We did have a gentleman who was interviewed last week and that looks promising.
- Our Audit was last month and all the citations given were all on paperwork, there are no safety concerns.
- Due to so many changes in the last 6 years, Beth will be going through revamping and making new policies for the Agency so everything can be written down. The goal is to have them completed by March

April is Child Abuse Awareness Month and Aaron let Beth know that half the price for the pin wheels is \$250.00

Motion to donate half the money> Motion Approved->Motion Carries

Treasures Report (Brandy):

We have \$20,000 in the bank with the General Fund reimbursed. Misc fund is at \$4,500 after the costs of the cups for the Christmas gifts. Brandy offered to vote on moving money around from another fund to reimburse to make the accounts more even.

For The Kids is used all of the time. The Christmas fund is most of the time donated to us. Brandy had reviewed the By-Laws and double checked if the money could be removed into another account. It was agreed upon to wait for Roberta to verify this.

- There are no upcoming fundraisers
- We did receive a donation from 1<sup>st</sup> Christian Church recently

It was agreed that fundraising is a better option than moving the money around with the understanding all around that it is more important than taking money from the children.

For the next meeting an e-mail will be distributed for all members of the Advisory Board to bring ideas with them on fundraising.

Vote on approval> Motion Approved->Motion Carries

Approval of the Meeting Minutes from November Advisory Board Meeting (with the spelling error on Jeanette Klines name) > Motion Approved->Motion Carries

Pam has a couple people interested in joining the CYS Advisory Board, she will invite them to the next meeting and they'll have to write a letter for their application to the Commissioners if they decide to join.

Potential Mandatory Training opportunities with Greene County CYS: Beth had recently spoke with Commissioner Edgreen about this for all of our schools. It will need to consist of setting up meetings with all the Superintendents and getting the when and where. Presentations have been given in the past about what mandated reporters are supposed to do. Beth mentioned breaking down the presentations in smaller scales district by district would be easier for everyone to learn. The best time to set something like this up would be in the fall at the beginning of the school years.

Motion to adjourn> Motion Approved->Motion Carries: 9:38a.m.

Next Advisory Board Meeting is March 25, 2024 at 9a.m.