

RCWAC Quarterly Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2011

Attendance: Salah, Neeru, Cecilia, Vesna, Tami, Oscar & Mechelle, Lily, Danita, Cris Riley, JD, and Halima (phone)

1. Introductions, Salah welcomed everyone. Tami Kane Suleiman introduced her new last name.

2. Review and Approval of July 2011 minutes

Salah led the discussion. Neeru requested to have the word tribe removed. Lily Caceres listening to NPR said that they covered some African countries having issues related to tribes not getting along. They refer to groups as tribes. Lily gave examples of tribal issues. A kid had to confirm what tribe he was from.

3. By Laws Approval. Salah led its review stating first regarding the current appointment list and the need to update. Mechelle will send out the current appointment list and status. Salah stated that the by-laws have been in state of review and approval since Oct 2009. Oscar confirmed. Lily requested to change the advise in section 1 #1 to recommendation but group decided after a discussion to keep advise. Neeru added in section 1 paragraph one “development and administration of welfare policies,

Section 3 page 2 “branch of government” Cris suggested a police or a teacher, Neeru suggested a multi-cultural employee, Oscar stated someone has to request to the committee chair to bring a community provider that has information regarding the specific culture because case staffings are confidential. Tami stated that for public meetings such as the quarterly it is open with no restrictions.

Page 4 section 2 “meeting shall follow Oregon meeting laws”.... Find that information out. (Mechelle)

Page Remove #2 E

Clarification on DHS staff.... Voting rights / liaison status needed for voting?? All DHS members do not have voting rights per Oscar. This was discussed before and consulted with Gloria Anderson.

Salah- asked the group do you think the clarification defines the committee member duties?

Conflict of interest was discussed.

Salah asked that a quorum be clarified; Salah wants a suggestion of a minimum of quorum.

Halima spoke about the lack of culturally appropriate resources for placement of Somali children. Also there is the lack of cultural appropriate services around mental health. She stated that there are not enough families to take the children in. Some parents called Halima as their children were removed by DHS from the home and placed in a Somali home. Mother is happy of children's placement now. Salah stated related to follow ups that once the staffing decision is made sometimes we don't get the results. Halima said her case is not resolved and has come back for staffing. How much involvement should RWAC have in the cases that we staff?

Oscar responded that there are requirement to follow up cases and it is on the worker and branch to request follow ups. Salah is making a suggestion to have a person take minutes at the case staffing because of liabilities of the group. Oscar said that it is expected that the worker takes notes and follows recommendations but there is not a log to follow the case and full recommendations.

Oscar makes a recommendation – If possible with the assistance of the members to create a note taker list on a rotation basis. Pended to be continued.

Cecilia suggested to DHS to make presentations to recruit families.

Salah recommends to have DHS bring a Certification process presentation. This will be arranged for the following quarterly.

The committee never has had 14 members. Continued recruitment is needed. Salah requested to continue with revision of the by-laws finalizing by early and it was agreed that by Dec. 1st, the by-laws will be concluded.

Vesna will be on vacation in December.

3. Staffing and how often.

The current dates will be re-sent regarding staffing.

5. TRAININGS THE GROUP WOULD LIKE:

Certification and Confidentiality training – Tami will take care of confidentiality as has copy of cd.

6. Information brochure: Oscar spoke about the idea of a flyer or pamphlet that explains what RCWAC is and that it is available to all staff audience can be combined with the general public. Pended for development in the future.

7. Add ons: Salah is extending invitation to Gloria Anderson to attend December meeting. Oscar will let her know.

Next meeting Dec. 1st at 1:30 pm

Adjourn