

**Community Advocacy Committee Meeting Notes**  
April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – 37 Leavenworth Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor – 2:30-4:00PM

**Attendees:**

Louise Allen Brown  
JoAnn Reynolds Balanda  
Ana Flamengo  
Elaine Skoronski  
Lori Hart (Staff)

**Updates:**

Elaine Skoronski contacted Paul to find out what the Board of Alderman would want to know in terms of presentation logistics. Paul felt it would be great for us to come and provide a basic presentation. The following ideas were suggested:

- May 10<sup>th</sup> could be possible date to present
- Present during budget discussion
- Touch base with Terry to finalize recommendations
- Out of sight out of mind (pros & cons)
- It could draw more attention to our program being funded

Elaine spoke with Terry who recommends waiting. Legislature is supposed to be completed by May 5<sup>th</sup>. There is a legislative breakfast in late June. The committee felt the presentation should focus on the following:

- What are we doing now; especially the 40 Developmental Assets
- Look to PPB as partners and resource
- Argue for money to be spent in Waterbury
- Quantify loss for money for a dropout
- State after school programs and money
  - Emphasize to state legislators for 2010 (\$5 Million or more dollars)
  - Parents went without programs and kids without resources
  - After school programs was number one choice of the Bridge to Success Plan

There was concern that we would not be able to convince these people that we are valuable to them for data. It was suggested that the committee start making data sheets. Louise Brown suggested holding a working meeting where we put together a sheet – tying data to meeting and put it together.

It was suggested that the committee priorities should drive our presentation and that their data should also be incorporated. A college student or intern would be ideal for putting the information together. Louise could supervise this process. We should be a resource so we can take something off the shelf. It was also suggested that we do a monthly update that we put out including stats.

Lori will send out priorities by committee – include data from committees. Lori and JoAnn will look at data and see what other data would be recommended.

Aldermen – who we are, what we've done, what's the plan, October Summit to be invited, report out a couple of times per year, and update them.

Lori Hart researched potential grant opportunities. The following were her findings:

- **CRRA:** Waterbury does qualify for the grant. 7% in 2007; 13% in 2009; 16% in 2010.
- **JDP:** 3 year opportunity – 1 year planning and 2 year implementation

The committee wondered what their role is in terms of the grant. It was noted that it is difficult to ask for operating support. Staff priorities, budget and job descriptions should be included. JoAnn recommends the Wallace Foundation. Go to funders and outline grants we are planning to go after such as Wallace and Ford. Supporting consultant or grant writer include some staff time and some consultants. Identify grant writer who has been successful with grants in this sector. Louise suggested leaving request open-ended to go after other grants as they come up that might be more important. A letter should go out to TOW and other funders who came to the Funders Forum, and perhaps Wallace.

**Mayors Action Challenge:**

Pull out from priorities and run them by Mayors Office through Terry

**100 Best Communities:**

Louise will circulate to committee and others to fill out parts of

**Legislators:**

Send out cards like Louise came up with on regular basis or Just 10 More

**Next Steps:**

Lori and JoAnn will work on priorities

**Next Meeting:**

May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 10:00-12:00 – 37 Leavenworth Street 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor