ATTENDEES


STAFF: Anne Litecky and Nakita Long.


WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER: Barbara Bond began the meeting at approximately 10:15 a.m. and welcomed guest victim service and law enforcement representatives from Baltimore and Harford Counties.

RETREAT REPORT/MINUTES:
- Motion: Move to approve Minutes of February 1, 2012.
- Vote: Seconded and unanimously approved.

GOVERNOR’S APPOINTMENT OF NEW STATE CHAIR
- Kristen Mahoney, Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) announced the Governor’s appointment of Ellen Alexander as the new Chair of the State Board.
- Ellen Alexander, Chair, thanked the Board for their vote of confidence.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
- Grants Committee
  - The Maryland Victims of Crime (MVOC) and Legal Services for Crime Victims (LSCV) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was posted on GOCCP’s website on January 10, 2012.
  - Electronic submissions of the applications were due on February 14, 2012 and hardcopies were due on February 16, 2012.
  - The majority of the Grant Review Committee approved the list of outside reviewers who will review and score the LSCV and MVOC grant applications.
  - Between February 28 and March 20, 2012, outside reviewers will review grants.
  - Grant reviewers will meet on March 21, 2012 to give their final scores.
  - The Grant Review Committee will meet on March 28, 2012.

- Governor’s Victim Assistance Awards Luncheon
  - The Governor’s Victim Assistance Awards Luncheon will be held at Club Meade in Fort Meade, Maryland on May 4, 2012 from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.
  - Music will be played by Meade High School students.
  - William “Bill” Johns will photograph the event again this year.
  - The keynote speaker is Jill Harrington-LaMorie, LCSW, DSW, Senior Lead Field Researcher/Grief Counselor for the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress.
  - The cost for the luncheon will remain $30 per person.
  - The Governor’s Luncheon Awards Committee will meet March 9, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. to review nominations.
Annual Memorial Services
- The 23rd Annual Memorial Services will be held on Sunday, April 22, 2012.
- Theme: “Something Beautiful Remains”

Nominations Committee
- Due to the appointment of the new MSBVS Chair, there is now a service provider vacancy for the State Board.
- If anyone is interested, you are encouraged to submit a letter expressing your interest. Application details are posted on the GOCCP website.
- Deadline: 30 days from today

Annual Report
- The Ad Hoc Committee held a teleconference on February 10, 2012 and discussed reviewing other reports done by other similar Boards for guidance.
- “Recommendations to the Governor,” is a priority for the FY 2011 and FY 2012 Annual Report.

Legislative Committee
- 2012 Proposed Legislative Chart (handout).
- Board members were provided a copy of 2012 Victims Bills of Interest. Brief discussion followed re:
  - SB 626- Child Abuse – Failure to Report- Civil Penalty and Child Abuse Prevention Fund
    - GOCCP testified on March 6, 2012 in support of SB 626 which would create a civil penalty for individuals who fail to report child abuse.
  - SB 647 - Domestically Related Bill - After an individual is convicted of a certain crime, a judge would determine if the incident was domestic or not. If the incident is deemed to be domestic related it would become a reportable offense to CJIS.
  - SB 122 – Courts & Judicial Proceedings- Crime Victims and Witnesses Funds – Court Costs
    - This bill would increase the current cap on court costs deposited into the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund and the State Victims of Crime Fund.
- State Board members are urged to contact the Legislative Committee with suggestions, ideas and feedback.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS
- Sentencing Guidelines Worksheet
  - Status Update
    - The Sentencing Commission is taking up the issue of removing the questions regarding victims from the Guidelines Worksheet as a few select people believe these questions do not further the goals of the Sentencing Commission.
    - State Board members were asked to come and speak with the Sentencing Commission on May 1, 2012 about the importance of keeping the questions on the Worksheet.
  - Granting Executive Clemency
    - Gov. Martin O’Malley is taking steps to grant executive clemency to two Maryland inmates serving life sentences.
    - The State Board members were urged to contact Kristen Mahoney with any questions with respect to this matter.

COMMUNITY SPEAKERS
- Turn Around, Inc.
Lydia Kim provided information about Baltimore County’s TurnAround Program.

- TurnAround provides victim advocacy and outreach services to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in Baltimore County.
- TurnAround has various resources for victims of crime
  - 24/7 helpline
  - Two full-time Victim Advocates and one part-time Victim Advocate
  - Counseling services
  - Court Accompaniment
  - Assist Human Trafficking victims

- **Greater Baltimore Medical Center (GBMC) SAFE Program**
  - Linda Kelly, RN, FNE-A, provided information regarding services provided to victims of rape and sexual assault
    - Care is provided to victims of rape and sexual assault that occur in Baltimore County ages 13 and above.
      - Children 12 years of age and younger are cared for at Franklin Square Hospital.
    - By design, GBMC is the only provider in Baltimore County to offer the SAFE Program.
    - National statistics show that when a Forensic Nurse Examiner or SAFE Nurse has been involved, there is a greater opportunity for successful prosecution.
    - Court testimony
    - Suspect Examinations
    - Two Week Follow up call to access psychosocial needs
    - The national protocol for sexual assault services establishes that the services should be managed by a Sexual Assault Response Team.
      - The Baltimore County SART is held at GBMC every other month.
    - Community Education/Outreach
    - Domestic Violence Program

- **Baltimore County Police Department**
  - Colonel M. Kim Ward expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to attend the Board meeting.
  - She advised that there are 10 precincts and all of the following are geared toward victim outreach and victim advocacy.
    - Community Resources
    - Chaplains
    - Auxiliary Police
    - School Programs
    - School Resource Officer
  - Domestic Violence (DV)
    - There is a DV Coordinator and an individual officer in each precinct that deals with how DV calls for service are being answered and how the lethality assessment is being done.

- **State’s Attorney’s Office of Baltimore County**
  - Peggy Basham thanked everyone for the opportunity to be at the meeting. She provided a brief synopsis of the Victim-Witness Unit in Baltimore County State’s Attorney’s Office and some of the services they provide.
    - Staff: 9 full time employees, 1 grant employee
    - Primary mission: Inform victims and witnesses about the status of their criminal case.
      - Provide initial information in Circuit Court cases and trial information in District Court cases.
  - Copies of Crime Victim Notification Request and Demand for Rights Form is scanned and maintained in the office and contact is made with the following agencies:
    - Attorney General’s Office – referring Appeals
    - Detention Center’s – Pretrial
- Division of Correction
- Division of Parole and Probation
- Parole Commission

- Baltimore County Victim/Witness brochures go out to every victim and witness in a Circuit Court case.
- Families of Homicide and Drunk Driving Fatality Support Group
  - Open ended peer support group, founded in 1990
  - Open to every county, not exclusive to Baltimore County
- Several other special units in the office include:
  - Child abuse
  - Sex Offense unit
  - Identity Theft Unit

*Meeting Adjourned:* Guests and Board members were thanked for their participation.

The next Board meeting date and location to be announced.