

**OUTDOOR YOUTH PROGRAM
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 2010**

Location: ODOT – 2775 19th St. SE, Salem, OR

Board Members Present: Rob Cooley – Catherine Freer, Gregg Morgan – BLM-Roseburg, Gordon Hickey – Substitute School Teacher, Christina Meyerhoff – Oregon Episcopal School, Dan Coyel.

Others Present: Rob Koning, Dr. John Huffine, Ryan Sturch

DHS Staff Present: Monika Peterson and Inez Andrus

Approval of April's Minute's: Rob Cooley – Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

- Rob asked the Board Members to look at the minutes for any correction. The minutes were amended and submitted as approved by Gordon Hickey and Christina Meyerhoff 2nd the motion.

Board Members:

- Dan Coyle has been accepted as a Board Member.
- Monika will check on Dr. John Huffine application that was sent in.

Review of Programs:

- Second Nature
 - Dr. John (J) Huffine is the new Director, Willow his wife is the Therapist.
 - Second Nature is the smallest of the four Outdoor Youth Programs.
 - Second Nature has been impacted by recession starting in November 2008-2009 tough years.
 - Second Nature is always looking at safety issues.
- Catherine Freer
 - Catherine Freer has had a senior management change; Rob Koning is the new Executive Director, Clinical Director – Katherine Lake, Sara Mack – Marketing.

- Catherine Freer start trips on Wednesday's out 23-day trips, 3 nights/4 days expeditions. Staff checks on them 2 – 3 times a day.
 - Working on life change plan – hitting goals – implanting ideas. Therapist is in the field.
 - 1st week is safety, group skills, and feelings.
 - 2nd week is a deeper level, dealing with issues
 - 3rd week is a 4-day solo in the middle. Kids always know where staff is they stay in one place. Working on journals for life change plan goals to share with family at meetings.
 - Final Day is with a family meeting.
 - There are up to 8 kids in a group with 3 staff present. 50% of the kids move into a 4-week adventure phase. Some of the students than go home or some go to another boarding program. 60% - 70% of the students eventually graduate from High School. 83% of the students stay clean from drugs and alcohol.
 - There are 2 Oregon Transition homes.
- Snow Peak – Santiam Crossing
 - Santiam Crossing has a new Director, Ryan Sturch.
 - There are 167 acres in the Cascades.
 - Students must complete a wilderness program before coming to Santiam Crossing.
 - Goals are reviewed each week.
 - Students are managing their own meals, achievement goals, and fires.
 - Family and Therapist Meetings – Three therapy sessions per week and family and student session.
 - Three weekends a month activity, climbing, horses back riding, and rafting. Certificate for 6-wilderness first aid class.
 - Students can earn certificates 3-6-9 month depends on student. Seven months is an average stay, (36 beds). Two boys cabin and one girls cabin. There are 23 students in the program now. Three students graduated on the 18th.
 - There is a strong adventure activity that is done.
 - Freer have 3 houses: community based like group home to transition students back to society.
 - There is a lot of communication working with parents and divorced parents to understand their student. A family dynamic can be a huge factor.
 - New laws in January, “parity” laws.

- Families can appeal denials.
- New options, hopefully for kids and families.
- Insurance Companies have clamped down.

Other Business:

- Mt. Bachelor settlement has been reached.
- Wilderness Therapy Program – Sage Walk is still pending.

The meeting was closed at 12:05 by Gregg Morgan and Gordon Hickey 2nd the motion.

**The next Meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2011.

