

**COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL OF VERMONT/CORRECTIONS EDUCATION  
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES**

**Oakledge Park  
Burlington, VT  
May 22, 2014**

**Approved**

**CHSVT Present:** Charity Baker, Cara Berryman, Jim Candon, Jack Carson, Jeff Cassarino, Chris Cosgrove, John Cross, Lindsay Dakers, Sean Dobbin, Pauline Dwyer, Jerry Fortin, Jenn Gaito, Barb Hagen, Harmony Harriman, Lisa Harrington, Gary Harris, Mary Beth Heiskell, Dan Hescock, Marlena Hughes, Molly Humphrey, Ben Irish, Mike Lacoss, Dana Lesperance, John Long, Paul Major, Eric Marchese, Troy McAllister, Jan Noskey, Wilhelmina Picard, Broni Plucas, Mary Poulos, Sharon Renault, Nick Rulon, Bob Salzman, Sheila Sayah, Dana Scofield, Jeanne Smith, Angie Stewart, Bill Storz, Sharon Strange, Claire Swaha, Chad Thompson, Scott Tomlinson, John Vorder Bruegge, Matt Ware

**CHSVT Absent:** Susan Chelton, Laurette Garrand, Tod Lessard, Sarah Loveless, Bobbi Shutts

**VCI Present:** Barry Allen, Mike Carbonneau, Leonard Chase, Mark Duquette, Ryan Fletcher, Doug Lounsbury, Mike Place, Dennis Poulin, Marshall Rich, Jerry Schartner, John Trenholm

**VCI Absent:** Howard Deuso, Steve Maxfield

**Guests:** Alan Frost; staff and residents of The Veteran's Place, Northfield, VT; staff from Green Mtn. Harley Davidson; members of the Vermont Chapter Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association; DOC finance office staff Tatum LaPlant, Mo McIntyre, and Susan Carminati

**Meet the New Neighbors - activity**

Four groups were created and each person in the group shared a few things about themselves within their group.

**The Corrections Education Blue Collar Comedy Club**

**Dana**

Dana talked about how combining CHSVT and VCI into Corrections Education has created a team that has blended into a Habits of Mind organization. This new organization has now incorporated HOM into work, school and everyday life.

**Jerry**

Jerry talked about the educational value of what the Foremen are doing in the shops. Also, how CHSVT and VCI are sharing more resources and how offenders are being taught real world skills, sales customer service, soft skills, job retention, etc.

**Troy**

Troy recognized that there has been lots of new changes this fiscal year and he acknowledged the staff for the hard work that they are doing.

The Flexible Pathways Bill, that was recently passed, will affect Corrections Education and it is going to be apparent down the road that combining CHSVT and VCI will be beneficial in the way that offenders are taught and will have a positive effect on how we can relate to this Bill.

A legislative summer study that will include information about what we do, resources that we use/need, how many we serve, how much we spend, etc. will be due July 15<sup>th</sup>. More information to come.

### **Wilhelmina**

Wilhelmina acknowledged the entire community, CHSVT/VCI/WFD. What a difference a year makes in terms of progress.

Linda Ladd is a great new addition to the business office. She replaced Matt D'Agostino who is now the Director of Finance.

The Corrections Education goal is to have a continuum for offenders that supports social skills, on the job training, internships, jobs, etc. There needs to be team strength to support each other as we support our students.

Greg Young will be joining Corrections Education on August 1<sup>st</sup> as the VCI Work Program Coordinator. He will be working to overhaul the work camps, professionalizing offender jobs and implementing safety training systems for the employed offenders.

The administrators are still looking at other vocational programs to bring into the facilities.

### **Recognition of Staff Achievements**

Some of the following achievements were small and fun, others were more professional and well deserved.

Nick Rulon was recognized for being the first to complete the required online PREA training.

Mike Lacoss was recognized for the only one to receive a grade of 100% on the aforementioned PREA training.

Doug Lounsbury was recognized for completing two PREA trainings as he initially completed the wrong training and had to go back and complete the correct one (a few others later followed in his footsteps).

Sara Loveless received her Vermont educator's license.

Mark Duquette was recognized in New Orleans as National Correctional Industry Association 2014 northeast region Staff Award and named to the NCIA 2014 Honor Roll.

Tatum will be transitioning into a new finance role in DOC central office. Sean Burns will be replacing Tatum and will start on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Lindsay Dakers will be recognized by the department on June 6<sup>th</sup> as part of the DOC team of the year.

Alan Frost retired, in April, and was invited to the meeting today to be honored.

Jim Candon has announced his retirement effective June 27<sup>th</sup>. He was also honored at today's meeting.

### **Donation to The Veteran's Place**

This year's Harley Program bike was built at the Northwest State Correctional Facility and donated to The Veteran's Place. The Veteran's Place is located in Northfield, Vermont. Below is some information about the organization.

***Our purpose is to help Vermont's Homeless Veterans by providing desperately needed resources in an all-in-one locale so these Veterans may regain their PRIDE, reach their full potential, and once again become contributing members of society.***

***The Veterans' Place is a transitional housing facility combined with assistive services for Homeless Veterans in Central Vermont. Our goal is to help Homeless Veterans transition from the homeless population. We have more than twenty-five other dedicated partners helping us.***

Director, Karen Boyce and some of the residents of The Veteran's Place were in attendance to accept the donation of the bike which will be raffled with help from the Combat Veteran's Motorcycle Association and all proceeds will directly benefit The Veteran's Place.

Members of Green Mountain Harley Davidson were in attendance to officially hand over the bike to the organization and members of the Combat Veteran's Association were in attendance as well. The Combat Veterans will spend the summer touring with the bike to sell the raffle tickets.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Sayah