MINUTES
Access to Justice Board
July 29, 2011
9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Omak, Washington

MEMBERS
Kirsten Barron
Breean L. Beggs
M. Wayne Blair
Ishbel Dickens
Elizabeth Fry
Nicholas P. Gellert
Hon. Steven C. González, Chair
Rep. Patricia Taylor Lantz (ret.)
Aiko Schaefer

STAFF
Joan E. Fairbanks
Justice Programs Manager
206 727-8282
joanf@wsba.org

THE ALLIANCE
for Equal Justice
SUPPORTER

Present:

ATJ Board members: Chair Judge Steve Gonzalez, Kirsten Barron, Wayne Blair, Patricia Lantz, Elizabeth Fry, Aiko Schaefer, Nick Gellert, Breean Beggs

ATJ Board Staff Joan Fairbanks and Allison Durazzi

ATJ Board Liaison Loren Etengoff (WSBA Board of Governors)

Guests: Dana Etengoff, David Lindeblad, John Lantz

Speakers and Presenters:

Cindy Gagne, Mayor of Omak
Doll Watt, Tribal Member, Educator and former Councilwoman
Larry Ground, Black Feet Tribal Member
Vicky Minto, Sr. Attorney, Northwest Justice Project (Omak)
Parker Parsons, Attorney, Northwest Justice Project (Omak)
Jamie Edmonds, Sr. Attorney, Colville Tribal Legal Office
Christopher Culp, District Court Judge, Okanogan County
Henry Rawson, Municipal Court Judge, Okanogan County
Lael Duncan, Director, Okanogan County Community Action Council
Margo Amelong, Executive Director, The Support Center
Constanza Smith, East Elementary School, Omak
Charlotte Myxter, Okanogan Community Action Counsel
Susan Speiker, Courthouse Facilitator, Okanogan County
Carey Reyes, Director, Tribal TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)
Mary Lindeblad-Fry, Intern, Tribal TANF, Youth Summer Program
Charleen Groomes, Superior Court Clerk, Okanogan County
Anna Guzman-Zarogoza, Social Worker, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Omak Office
Lynette Rose, Educator, North School
Carey Reyes

Cleansing of the Room: Larry Ground

Welcoming Remarks: Omak Mayor Cindy Gagne
Prayer: Colville Tribal Member Doll Watt

Local Issues: Community leaders, members of the judiciary, and advocates (listed above) made presentations about current issues facing people with economic and other significant barriers in Okanogan County. This "listening session" was organized and facilitated by ATJ Board member and Colville Tribal Member Elizabeth Fry. The

ATJ Board is writing a document on the key issues gleaned from this listening session, to be shared with the Chief Justice and made available to the Alliance.

Approval of June 3, 2011 ATJ Board Meeting Minutes: The minutes were approved as written.

Civil Legal Aid Oversight Committee Nominations: The ATJ Board's Nominating and Leadership Development Committee interviewed five applicants for two positions. The ATJ Board endorsed the Committee's recommendation to nominate the Hon. Martin C. Bohl, Presiding Judge of the Kalispel Tribe, and Hon. Ellen Kalama Clark, Spokane County Superior Court.

ATJ Board Supreme Court Funding: On July 28, 2011, Chief Justice Madsen notified Judge Gonzalez that FY 2012 ATJ Board funding will be at least $16,000. She asked the ATJ Board to provide a prioritized list of proposed activities and associated costs to the Supreme Court. She added that if additional funding is identified, the Court or AOC will notify the ATJ Board that funds are available for the next activity on the prioritized list. The ATJ Board discussed various options for a proposed letter to be circulated to the Board for approval.

Proposed Focus for WSBA Access to Justice Guiding Principle:

WSBA Governor Loren Etengoff reviewed the request, which is for the ATJ Board to consider proposed focus language for the WSBA Access to Justice Guiding Principle. The Guiding Principle states: *The WSBA will operate a well-managed association that supports its members and advances and promotes access to the justice system.* The proposed focus language is: *Enhancing a culture of service by providing training, leveraging community partnerships to create opportunities for lawyers to give back, and serving the moderate means population.* The ATJ Board suggested language to stress the importance of services to low income and marginalized populations. Loren will convey those recommendations to WSBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Fairbanks
Access to Justice Manager