

CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION

Meeting – November 21, 2016

MINUTES

Victor Fitz, Chairperson, called the Crime Victim Services Commission meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on November 21, 2016 in Conference Room 1A, South Grand Building, 333 South Grand Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.

Present:

Commission Members:

William Fales

Victor Fitz

Annie Harrison

Karen Hall

Brian Mackie

Staff Members:

Jeanie Cox, Secretary

Christine Lau, Senior Analyst

James McCurtis, Director

Janine Washburn, Program Specialist

Katherine Bennett, Assistant Attorney General

John Lazet, Victim Advocate, Attorney General Office

Ms. Harrison was introduced and welcomed to the Commission.

Public Comment – Mr. Fitz welcomed public comment. Mr. Lazet stated he had recently seen the advertisements for Crime Victim Services on his computer. He was very impressed with these advertisements.

Reading and Approval of Minutes – Ms. Hall made a motion, supported by Mr. Mackie, to waive the reading of the minutes from the September 19, 2016 meeting with one change. The motion carried.

Staff Report – Mr. McCurtis stated we are looking at putting billboards across the state for a longer period of time, mostly in high crime areas. Mr. McCurtis will be meeting with MDHHS communications staff and will report back.

Mr. McCurtis also reported that a new staff member will be starting in Crime Victims on December 19, 2016. The new staff member, Shalonna Banks, will be handling the S.A.F.E. program.

Report of the Members – None.

Unfinished Items – Mr. McCurtis reported that the Bill in the legislature attempting to use CVSC funds for child advocacy centers appears to be no longer.

Also regarding the Kalamazoo incident from earlier this year, CVSC has been working with federal employees to obtain a federal grant. It appears as if the grant will be awarded. CVSC will process an amendment for the Kalamazoo County Prosecutor's office to increase funding for victims of this incident. Mr. Mackie stated that the word needs to get out that there is assistance is available. Discussion followed. Mr. McCurtis also stated the victims of the bicycling incident have also come forward to seek assistance.

New Business –
A. Appeals – None.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2016.

The Commission moved into the appeals portion of the meeting.

Mr. Mackie made a motion, supported by Dr. Fales, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Fitz, Chairperson

Witnessed: _____

Date: _____