

Child Welfare Team Meeting

June 1, 2011

The following attended the meeting: Judge Cynthia Raccuglia, Vicki Denny, Ed Kelly, CiCi Chalus, Elizabeth Rice, Jim Reilly, Cynthia Gonzalez, Mark Jenkins, Sheila Jones, Pamela Lamichhane and William Pfalzgraf.

1. On a motion by Judge Raccuglia and second by Vicki Denny, the minutes of the April 5, 2011 meeting were approved.

2. Bill passed out information from Greg Hixon on the Streator Community Coalition. Since our last meeting, they have prepared a draft brochure. They would like to add additional agencies and organizations and need someone to provide a local hotline number. They will distribute the brochures as a team to educate and inform the Streator community of why they have come together to support families.

3. Heather Dorsey with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts informed us by e-mail that Elizabeth Rice has been awarded a scholarship to attend the National Parents’ Attorney Conference in Washington, D.C. on July 13-14, 2011. Congratulations Beth. We also passed out information on the 1 Day Survey Course in Child Welfare Law and Practice to the attorneys in the group.

4. CiCi Chalus gave an update on CASA. They have revised their training to get new volunteers trained faster. They will be offering training in Streator soon.

5. A question was asked about the Streator Recreation Center. The Center is operated by Jenny Malnar who also is the founder and owner of Options Counseling Services. They are not affiliated with the Teen Recreation Center that has been in the news (trying to re-open).

6. Mark Jenkins noted that they have a new caseworker, Lynn Palmer. Sheila Jones stated that they also have several new caseworkers.

7. The next meeting was scheduled for July 27, 2011 at noon. Members are encouraged to notify Court Services if they plan to attend. If the group seems too large for the jury room, it will be moved to the Sheriff’s Training Room.