

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS

02.20.2015

1 – 3:00 P.M.

Attendees

M. Kirkpatrick; D. Knoepfler; M. O’Connell; L. Paxton; K. Rongen; M. Saylor; P. Spizman; L. Trifiletti; G. Hover

Introductions: Attendees participated in brief introductions

Business Items

1.5 Continuing Education credits will be offered for attendance

Due to the fact most of the general meeting attendees were at the board meeting, committee updates were brief. See the Board Meeting minutes for more detail.

Updates:

- Gerry discussed his efforts to begin Circles of Support meetings with Robin Wilson and Andrew McWhinnie. The archdiocese has agreed to be involved. They are seeking physical locations to host meeting and volunteers. There was discussion about the best approach to start meetings. Ideally there would be a coordinator who could recruit volunteers to be in the circles. The reception has been good in King County and less so in Pierce County. Dan and Michael offered their offices as meeting locations. Michael offered to have his office manager take on some coordinating responsibilities. There was discussion of involving DOC in the conversation as well. A good place to start would be to contact the volunteer organizations that already work with DOC and SCC. The plan is to start small with one or two circles and slowly expand from there. Dan offered to find volunteers for a circle to get started. Marshall stated this is being done successfully in Wenatchee with juvenile offenders.

Program Committee- None.

Additional upcoming training opportunities: None.

Membership committee- None.

Policy / Legislative Committee

- HB 1272- essentially “revenge porn” offenders to be classified as sex offenders. General WATSA consensus- this seems to be a reach and will “water down” the sex offender label. If it gets to the Senate, WATSA will consider writing a letter.
- HB 2042- creates a new crime of Voyeurism II to essentially provide a plea option.
- HB 2033- seems to be a positive change. It gives the judge discretion to make a sexual assault protection order (SAPO) permanent rather than expiring after two years. Currently there is an option to do a civil no contact order, but it is an extra step.
- HB1068/ SB5255- law enforcement must submit sexual assault examination kits to the lab within 30 days. WASPC and law enforcement seem to be supportive of this bill.

Budget Committee – None.

New Business

- Starting a monthly WATSA blog/ newsletter. There was discussion of who would write the articles and/ or post information. Dan offered to send out a monthly email with links to current research and interesting topics that will be provided by Michael.

Presentation Information: Brainstorming about topics and presenters for the June retreat.