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MINUTES

WWC Prison Community Partnership Committee Meeting
June 23, 2010 5:30-7:00 p.m.

The Wyoming Women's Center Prison Community Partnership Committee met June 23, 2010. Attending the meeting is as follows; Facilitator -Warden Phil Myer, Associate Warden Martha Decker, Christine Thayer, Mayor Pat Smith, Heather Adams, Randi Ross, Rodney Ross and Lisa Mellot.

The meeting was held at the Niobrara Senior Center. Warden Myer extended his welcome and appreciation to all attending. He introduced himself and everyone else introduced themselves. Chairperson Randi Ross opened the meeting. Ms. Ross overviewed the purpose of the PCPC and stressed that it serves as a communication tool between the community and WWC. She shared about previous meetings and initiative that PCPC has been involved in. She discussed the previous goals of the PCPC and how a number of them had been met and the others that are on-going. Discussion was held about continuation and interest in the PCPC initiatives. Ms. Sturman indicated that if the library can assist in any capacity to please visit with her. Everyone in attendance was encouraged to share any ideas, concern, and/or issues and encouraged to contact Warden Myer. Ms. Ross turned to the meeting over to Warden Myer.

Warden Myer informed the group that he had been appointed as the Warden at WWC by Director Lampert May 1, 2010. Warden Myer shared that he and his family had moved to Lusk three years earlier. He is joined by his wife and three daughters. His was very impressed with the school system and how friendly the community is. These two areas really stood out with his wife and him. They have been very pleased living in Lusk. Warden Myer stated that he was not new to corrections. He was in the Nebraska system for twenty-eight (28) years serving as an Officer and advancing to the Unit Manager. He affirmed that he is very happy living within this community.

Warden Myer indicated that he is very supportive of the work crews assisting within the community. He indicated that he had completed a letter of support of Lusk being chosen for a grant to assist with economical development. He also stated that an inmate work crew will be within the community assisting the Town of Lusk with numerous Projects. A member voiced their appreciation of the work crew and the results were very visible. Street cleanup and recycling are two areas that inmate crews are already work with and the work crew will be cleaning up the fairgrounds prior to the Legend of Rawhide. Ideas of different job/projects that community members thought might be started or be assisted by the Women's Center were discussed. There will be further discussion and development of this in the future. Discussion was held regarding the Prison Industry components that are being developed for WWC. Shrimp and minnow bait are being grown in the Aquaculture Center.

WWC is now using a gender specific classification document and this has classified numerous inmates to less restrictive classification. This will assist in having more inmates qualified to work outside of the perimeter fence with supervision and will gain positive work experience. WDOC is also making a documentary film of WWC. DOC is working with, WDOT to film and interview staff members. This will be utilized for PR, Recruiting, and misc. The community of Lusk will also be featured in this video. Completion dates for this video is approximately six (6) months out.

Warden Myer discussed the continuation of the PCPC and encouraged participation. Anyone who would consider a PCPC office position was asked to contact either Ms. Thayer or Warden Myer.

The meeting will be scheduled for the next quarter and publicized.