

Youth Camp Advisory Council Meeting Notes & Action Items

Purpose or Goal: Annual Advisory Council Meeting	Location: 402 S
Meeting Date: 12/05/2007	Time: 10:30 – 12:30

Attendees		
		D.Barber
Mike Minoia - DSHS	Laura Pfefferle – DSHS	Kathy Rysdale
Paula Anderson – DSHS	Courtney Hoffman	Martin Payne
Susan Tennyson - DSHS	Don Heard	Frank Muud
Julie Loera – DSHS	Blake Smith	Kenneth F (last name illegible) Texas Legislative Service
Heather Meuhr - DSHS	Phyllis Rouse	Dan Dunagan

Minutes
<p>Mike Minoia, Youth Camp Program Specialist welcomed everyone to the meeting. Participants were introduced.</p> <p>Information was provided on youth camp inspections for summer 2007. According to information available, there were 538 licensed facilities and 127 inspections reviewed, of which 21 were sent to enforcement.</p> <p>The proposed rule changes for youth camps handout was reviewed and discussed. Language changes agreed upon by the group are included in the action items with reference to the appropriate section of the rule. The committee accepted the changes as noted in the handout, to the following rules sections with modifications as noted in the action items:</p> <p>§265.12(f)(1)(A), §265.12(f)(1)(B), §265.12(f)(2), §265.13(u), §265.15, §265.23(d) – (h), §265.24(d)-(e), §265.27(e)</p> <p>There was no discussion on the checklist.</p> <p>Other items needing further action are to be researched and results communicated with the Committee.</p> <p>Discussion on the provision of criminal histories ensued, centering on how the decision to exclude a person from employment should be made. Should it be mandated by rule or left up to the discretion of the youth camp directors, with guidance from the department.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference was made to Government Code Chapter 53 as laying out criteria for hiring decisions. • Can rules reference violations of moral turpitude? • Define what is appropriate and not appropriate for employment • What about at risk graduates? Don't want to exclude. • Guidance vs rule changes

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Committee was in favor of creating a guidance document to complement rules. The language of should or shall can be the difference in mandatory language or guidance language. The persons present suggested a list of questions for the youth camps from which they could chose the ones they wanted to use as part of employment process.

The section regarding communicable conditions and exclusion from attendance was discussed. Youth camps are required to have medical personnel on staff, and generally cannot send a camper home but do isolate them. Is the existing section which requires isolation sufficient?

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Action Items

Action Item	Reference Section	Responsible
List page &/or web address where the database can be found.	§265.12(f)(1)(A)	Mike
Change “hard copy printout” to “documents	§265.12(f)(1)(A)	Mike
Research the statute for language to determine extent of authority regarding criminal convictions. Based on result of research, Department may propose guidance or rule change incorporating Government Code Chapter 53, if applicable.	§265.12(f)(1)(B)	Susan/Julie
Priority Matrix for Inspections		Mike
Do not capitalize “Sex Offender Registration” in the text since referring to a “generic” database.	265.12(f)(2)	Mike
Remove web citation for the Texas Sex Offender Registration Database and replace with reference to DPS website. Make sure that is the “official name” of the database.	265.12(f)(2)	Mike
Create guidance document to complement rules. Include in the document the questions to ask of potential employees.	265.12(f)(2)	DSHS
Change wording of section to “A report intake form, entitled “HHSE Office of Internal Affairs: Texas Youth Camp Waste, Abuse and Fraud Referral Form: may be faxed to the office of Inspector General, Internal Affairs, 512-833-6493.	265.15	Mike
Check with OIG regarding release of investigation results to camp operators.		DSHS
Expand section to include what to do when camp staff suspect abuse occurring or occurred outside of camp environment. Reference to Family Code 261.101(A)	265.15	Mike
Check with Infectious Diseases to see if the current language of §265.15(g) “Isolation of a child with a communicable disease. A child ill with a confirmed or suspected case of a communicable disease shall be isolated to provide safety to other children and quiet to the patient. Any child that is isolated shall be supervised as determined by the Camp Health Officer.” is adequate, or should the wording of §265.15(n) be changed to “The owner or operator of a youth camp shall isolate from participating in activities any child having or suspected of having a communicable condition.”	265.15(n)	DSHS
Frequency of required water sampling		Mike
Why is there a two year wait after denial or revocation of license?	265.24(f)	Julie

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