

**Statewide Suicide Prevention Council  
Quarterly Meeting  
Videoconference, March 29, 2016**

Vice-Chairman Barbara Franks called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 via video/teleconference.

Vice-Chairman Franks thanked the Council members for attending the meeting.

Roll Call was taken: Sharon Fishel, Meghan Crow, Barbara Franks, Alana Humphrey, Brenda Moore, Sen. Berta Gardner, Cynthia Erickson, Rep. Geran Tarr, Lowell Sage, Kathryn Casello, Rob Sanderson Jr., Alavini Lata.

Absent: Rep. Benjamin Nageak (excused), Bill Martin (excused), Sen. Anna MacKinnon (excused), Randall Burns (excused)

Kate Burkhart suggested postponing the approval of agenda, minutes and ethics disclosures until a quorum could be reached in order to respect the time of the Alaska Federation of Natives representatives that have come to have a discussion about the fall convention.

Vice-Chair Franks commented that two representatives from AFN are present, Ben Mallott and Nelson Angapack. The objective is to talk about a healing ceremony at the fall convention. Mallott thanked the Council for the invite and asked how the Council would like to participate. The convention will be held in Fairbanks in October. It will last three days. There is also the Youth & Elders convention prior to the regular convention, and a community potlatch that could be an opportunity. Vice-Chair Franks commented that one of the ideas was to have a brief healing ceremony at the beginning of the convention that acknowledges the suicide that happened at the last convention in Anchorage. It would be a safe place to let people know that AFN is aware that suicide is a big issue and could help bring comfort to people that are attending. Mallott commented that it is a good idea and has been brought up by the planning committee.

Vice-Chair Franks asked Burkhart if there was a letter sent to AFN addressing a healing ceremony. Burkhart commented that Chairman Martin spoke with the AFN Board. Staff can work with representatives from AFN, as well as interested stakeholders. One of the ideas is that it be a healing ceremony rather than focused on what happened last year, as well as having a safe space at the convention. If folks are feeling they need to talk to someone or need a quiet space, there could be a place that has counselors from the Methamphetamine and Suicide Prevention Initiative grants where people are supported. It is a two-prong approach, having a healing ceremony and a safe space that different groups work together to provide. Mallott commented that it is a good idea and has been discussed in the past. He will run it by the convention committee.

The Carlson Center has limited space, so that is one of the first issues to address. AFN is still waiting on the layout off the convention. They would need to know who would be staffing the event.

Angapack commented that AFN is televised live and watched by many people. The event at the last convention was shocking to many people around the state. Alaskans need to learn from that event and find ways and means to reach out and prevent suicide. In 2013, a bunch of young people came forward and spoke about suicide and had a powerful impact on people. There should be positive messages and not a focus on the incident. Mallott commented that AFN would like to build and heal after that tragic event. He suggested having the healing ceremony at the potlatch. It would be good to promote the healing room on social media and other means. About 90,000 people watch AFN on television each year. There were also 22,000 that viewed AFN online and about another 40,000 that tuned in on the radio. A lot of people pay attention to the resolutions so that would be a good way to reach people, by having a resolution on suicide prevention. A lot of people bring materials home from AFN, so having prevention materials would be good as well. Being prepared prior to the convention would help reach a lot of people. Brenda Moore commented that the Council has had a table the past several years. Mallott commented that he will work to get another table at this convention.

Burkhart commented that one thing to consider is having an outreach and communication plan ahead of time that would allow for the folks that are not at the convention to get information and feel supported. There are MSPI grantees online and she asked for any comments from them on how they can participate with information as well as staffing a room. Rose Dominic commented that she has been involved in suicide prevention for the past five years and working with elders in her region. She commented that it may feel like a lot is accomplished on social media, but what they have learned and the guidance from the elders has been to focus on tools that people can use to move away from the harmful legacy of historical trauma. She asked if there is any way to do presentations to address harmful and unhealthy behaviors and what they have done to Alaska Natives. That would help augment the healing ceremony. Mallott commented that workshops can be done on healthy behaviors if there was enough planning to get the word out. He can ask to get presentations on the agenda, but the time is limited to get those presentations on the agenda. Burkhart asked if anyone else has any thoughts or comments on participating in the effort.

Moore commented that at the last meeting they had talked about involving clergy in the healing process. Clergy could help in a healing room, and there are a lot of rural pastors that could help out. Mallott commented that it is a good idea, but they will first need to find an appropriate room. Vice-Chair Franks commented that the room should be staffed at all times. It would also be a good idea to have people wearing buttons that says they are a person people can talk to. Moore commented that it would be good to have a planning committee to help put together all of the logistics. Mallott agreed. Angapack commented that suicide is a complex issue and it is important to look at all the issues involved with suicide. Veterans are also a key

demographic that needs to be addressed. Vice-Chair Franks asked if Mallott will be the best contact person at AFN. He commented that he will help out in any way he can and will help with planning. Burkhart commented that having a planning committee is really smart. Some people that could participate would be all of the MSPI grantees, and might invite Linda Sheridan in Fairbanks, as well as Chaplain Koch with the Army National Guard to address the needs of veterans. Someone at the Public Information Office should be involved if there are going to be products that are disseminated. Council staff as well would be important. Tanana Chiefs Conference and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium should also be invited to participate. Council members that are interested should be involved. The planning committee will have to work hard and fast to get everything done well in advance of October. Sanderson commented that he would like to be a part of the committee. Mallott commented that there are some deadlines, including for signage, which is a month ahead of the convention. He commented that he can work with Sanderson to create a resolution. He staffs the resolution committee as well, so that can be something that can happen. Mallott agreed that the room should be staffed at all time. Sanderson commented that he likes the idea of a resolution and have it focus on people getting involved in their local communities. Moore commented that the Forget-Me-Not Coalition could participate in the planning and staffing the room. Mallott thanked the Council for inviting him. Burkhart commented that there is a lot of work ahead but it is something that could be very meaningful. Council staff will work to pull the committee together and will work out the details from there.

Alavini Lata joined the call at 9:30 a.m., giving a quorum.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Sharon Fishel **moved** to adopt the agenda. Moore **seconded**. The agenda was **approved** without objection.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Sanderson **moved** to approve the September 23 and 24, 2015 minutes; Sharon Fishel **seconded**. Vice-Chair Franks asked if there was any discussion. The minutes were **approved** without objection.

### **Ethics Disclosure**

Sharon Fishel works for Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), which receives suicide prevention grant funds from the Council as well as a grant from the Division of Behavioral Health. Meghan Crow works for Lower Kuskokwim School District, which receives suicide prevention funds from DEED. Brenda Moore co-founded Christian Health Associates, which receives state funding for its school-based health clinics.

### **School-Based Suicide Prevention Grant Program Update, Sharon Fishel**

Fishel commented that the DEED receives grant money to give to schools. They also use some of that money to provide online e-Learning. As of last week, the Suicide Prevention e-Learning Part One had 2,400 users that have completed the course; for Part Two, just under a thousand had completed the course; and Part Three had about 250 complete the course. The only real complaint about the online trainings is that they are too long. DEED is in the process of taking the first two modules and breaking them into three modules. They will still cover the same content, but will be shorter. House Bill 44 [Alaska Safe Children's Act] that passed last year removed the annual requirement of two hours of suicide prevention training. School staff will no longer have to take the training every year, but every four years, so she wanted to make sure that they can still get some of the content without having to take the entire training as they were before. The revision of the new modules will be done July or August.

Fishel commented that they are in the final year of the school-based grants. In January, she put out the request for proposals for a new grant cycle. There were 14 school districts that submitted letters of intent. Of those, 13 sent in applications. There is currently funding for 10 of those applicants. There is a review team in place that will go through those in about a week. They hope to send out an intent to award letter sometime in May.

### **Council Rebranding, Sarana Schell and Glenn Harvey**

Sarana Schell and Glenn Harvey are public information officers for the Department of Health and Social Services. They discussed the purposes of a logo, and why organizations "re-brand." The Council wants to position itself as the statewide expert in suicide prevention and to help be the conduit between communities, agencies and individuals. Burkhart commented that rebranding might be the wrong term. Council members have made the decision that they want to be more engaged in dynamic outreach through social media. The current logo of the geese is old, it is not fresh and friendly. Council members want a new look for the social media outreach; it is not looking for a new identity.

Harvey asked who the Council is trying to reach and what the message is. There was talk about using the plan's six goals, which can be done, but what is going to be done with those six goals. Burkhart commented that a beautiful image for goal number one that can be shared with personal stories on Twitter or Facebook. The audience is the general public. The question is how the Council uses the tools that are designed, that are more accessible. The hope is that personal stories will resonate with other people and get them involved. Schell asked if the Council was looking for a visual framework that can be used to promote and personalize examples. Burkhart agreed and commented that the other aspect is to have durable products that other people will want to use that will redirect people back to the state plan. It would be nice to have images for each goal that could be downloaded and posted to social media, like Facebook and Twitter. The idea is to have a toolkit for social media partners that they use to have messages that link back to more resources or the plan. For instance, with the AFN

convention the Council could work with the tribal health organizations and then have some sort of hashtag image. One new trend is creating some sort of emoji for use at specific events or on specific days. Then, at AFN, Council members and all of the partners can use it to grow the message exponentially.

Ideas discussed for the new logo included refreshing the geese logo (proposed by Harvey), adding mountains in the background (suggested by Alavini Lata), using something from the Council's net and fishing analogies (suggested by Moore), canoes as a symbol for suicide prevention (suggested by Vice-Chair Franks). Sanderson commented that he would like to see the logo change as he feels it is a little stale. Sen. Gardner commented that she is pleased with the current logo but wouldn't oppose a new one. Lata agreed. Burkhart asked if anyone on the phone had any more questions or comments. Vice-Chair Franks thanked Schell and Harvey for their time and participation.

### **Governor's Cabinet Suicide Prevention Workgroup Update, Kate Burkhart and Sharon Fishel**

Burkhart provided an update on the Governor's Cabinet Suicide Prevention Workgroup meetings. The Cabinet group meets about every two weeks for about 90 minutes. It includes all of the departments and all of the commissioners have been invited, but not all necessarily attend. There has been good participation and representation by most of the departments, particularly those that have experience with suicide or suicide prevention like the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs and the Department of Education and Early Development. The Governor's staff has also been very involved so there is a direct line to the Governor's office. There has been a lot of information sharing at the meetings to highlight all of the work being done across the state and the group has become very familiar with the state plan. All of the departments were asked to look at the work they do in relation to all six goals and the strategies, and to complete a spreadsheet showing how they contribute to the state plan goals. Key commissioners are going to have a meeting with the full cabinet and the Governor and Lt. Governor to provide an overview of what is being done and to get direction from the Governor on how the administration wants to build off of that momentum and do more.

Burkhart commented that the Council will likely see increased training for state employees and increased outreach through state media outlets. For example, the pledge card created in Tanana is now on the Governor's website. It is likely there will be more examples like that used in the future. Fishel commented that they are talking about embedding a message from the Governor that addresses suicide prevention in all trainings. The Department of Education and Early Development is working with the Lt. Governor's office on a video message from him that will be included in all of the e-Learning modules about suicide prevention.

Vice-Chair Franks commented that she appreciates the workgroup's efforts. She hopes that the workgroup will be able to secure more resources, or better utilize resources, because without the resources there will be no change. Burkhart commented that she is excited to share the AFN information from earlier in the meeting with the workgroup. There is still the intention that

when the Governor's office is ready to make the workgroup more of a public participatory group, the Council will be formally invited to have the Chairman participate. Vice-Chair Franks thanked them for the report.

### **Public Comment**

**Damon Hargraves**, Vice Principal at Kodiak Middle School, commented that he was invited to speak by Rep. Tarr. He went to a conference in the fall and spoke with a colleague he used to teach with in rural Alaska and spoke about some great memories but also recalled the issues with suicide. They recalled over 30 students and community members who had committed suicide in five years of working in the rural community. It was overwhelming to think about those figures. Suicide is a big issue in Alaska and needs to continue to be a focus of the state. He is very proud of the work being done in Kodiak. They have a good record of success and he believes that is due to the hard work and partnerships within the community. They believe they are setting a good example and will continue to work toward lowering stigma and the suicide rates.

**Jethro Jones**, Principal at Kodiak Middle School, appreciated the opportunity to share his school's work on suicide prevention. They have coordination of care meetings: counselors, principals, teachers involved, aides and others work together to focus on the needs of the students. They meet once a week and discuss how they can meet the needs of the students and will make plans for specific students. They pull in special education teachers, parents, and outside agencies as needed, and then work hard to make sure the students' social and emotional needs are met. He has seen a lot of positive improvement in student behavior, attendance, and discipline because of the coordination of care meetings. When everybody is on the same page, they provide more consistent and meaningful service to the students and solve problems more effectively. One of the problems they often see in education is people are so busy that there is often not the best communication and there might be mistakes made or things overlooked. With the weekly meetings they are able to support each other in ways that they haven't been able to before.

**Terra Greer**, Counselor at Kodiak Middle School, commented that they have some unique challenges in Kodiak. She works for Providence Health Services but is housed at the middle school so she is in the building any time there is a crisis or mental health emergency. Being in the building but not directly tied to the district is beneficial in terms of suicide prevention. She is always available when students are expressing suicidal ideation or doing any kind of self-harm. She has the range to do more than a district employee might be able to do so they are able to catch more people in crisis. She can make direct referral to outpatient services, the hospital, or other inpatient services like North Star. That way the school is doing everything it can to ensure the safety of the students. They are working on turning the school into a trauma informed school. The coordination of care meetings have a high priority in the school because

they are identifying students that would typically fall through the cracks in many schools. They are incorporating a number of things to make the building a trauma informed school, including staff training and staff buy-in. If the staff doesn't recognize the behaviors in kids and realize who the high-risk students are, then it actually impedes the overall level of education they can provide to the student body. They provide teachers with specific tools to recognize the different behavioral issues. They focus a lot of time on helping teachers' understanding the importance of building resiliency in students. This year they are also focusing on self-care for their staff so they can remain healthy and provide the support for the students. They plan to increase and expand the model in the school next year.

Fishel commented that she had heard of wonderful things going on in Kodiak so she was very pleased to get the update. She offered any assistance in the future if it is needed.

Vice-Chair Franks commented that she is pleased and grateful that self-care is a priority of the program.

Meghan Crow commented that, being a school employee and social worker, she was excited to hear about the work being done and the model being used. This is an excellent model to use in schools.

**Gareth Hummel**, Juneau Suicide Prevention Coalition, introduced himself to the Council. He has worked with the coalition for three months. He is pleased to see the work that the Council has been doing and the collaboration with the Juneau coalition. He is still new to the job, but has already seen a lot of good work being done in Juneau and the state and is still learning. He is still researching other states' work to see what kind of different programs they might be able to implement in Juneau. If anyone on the Council wants to be added to the Coalition's email list, please contact him.

#### **Annual Implementation Report, Kate Burkhart**

Kate Burkhart commented that the Annual Implementation Report is similar to the past several years to have some continuity with the previous years. It has been updated with all of the current information. Page three highlights the work that the Council has been involved in the past year. It is important to remember that it is a calendar year report and not a fiscal year report. Page six has the current data, which is 2014. The data is always a year behind in the way it is reported out. The Department of Education and Early Development has done some amazing work that has been included, including an 18 percent increase in trainings in the last year. Drew's Foundation received the Calista Community Service Award for all of its work. All of the state grantees are highlighted and how much funding they receive. The Strategic Prevention Framework is addressed in the report. There are also highlights of other smaller events and groups that did specific work. The Alaska Community Foundation grantees are mentioned in the report. The School-Based Suicide Prevention Grant program has a nice big section in the report. There is a section on the You Are Not Alone program. The Careline data is in the report. One of the struggles in recent years is Careline changed the way it recorded its call information so there is some inconsistencies in the data from several years ago until now. They weren't reporting wrong numbers, hang ups and disconnected calls in the past. The veterans' rates of death by suicide have been

included in the report, and show a significant decrease from several years ago. The number of QPR trainings this past year is exciting, but she expects them to go down next year with the loss of grant funds from the Garrett Lee Smith program. She expects the DEED training figures to grow this next year. On page 16 there is some new information on Goal 6, which is exciting because that goal doesn't get much attention. The scorecard that was included last year is also in this report. There has been some movement in some areas, but for the most part it is pretty similar.

Vice-Chair Franks thanked staff for the excellent report and asked Council members if they had any questions.

Moore asked if other trainings by providers are being tracked. Burkhart commented that only evidence-based suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention trainings are being addressed. The others would be too difficult to track. The trainings highlighted in the report are an estimated number.

Vice-Chair Franks asked if the trainings received are compared to the rates of the regions where those trainings took place. Burkhart commented that it is looked at anecdotally, but it is not something that has been analyzed. The successes are generally highlighted in the report, not looking at where there are still problems or high rates.

### **Break for Lunch**

### **Reconvened meeting at 1:04 p.m.**

### **Camp Fire Alaska Presentation**

Melanie Hill is the manager of the Rural Program at Camp Fire Alaska and Nicole Lebo is the director of program services. They shared a promotional video about the Rural Program of Camp Fire Alaska. They described the history of Camp Fire Alaska, started in 1964 in response to the historic earthquake. It has evolved to focus on supporting healthy life choices and decreasing risky lifestyle choices, including tobacco prevention and suicide prevention among others. They have grown their areas of expertise in the past 5 or 10 years.

The seasonal staff receives two weeks of training before heading out to the field in the summers. They focus on preventative work for teens. They received a grant from the Alaska Community Foundation to provide suicide prevention training for its staff so that they feel comfortable talking about the issue with the teenagers during the camps in rural Alaska. They provided Youth Mental Health First Aid and now have two trainers in the program that can train other staff members. They are hoping it will be a sustainable effort that reaches all of the staff. They have incorporated Youth Mental Health First Aid and now have 100 percent of the office staff trained in suicide prevention this year. They will have all staff at the sleep over camps trained in suicide prevention, as well as a majority of the front line delivery staff. They will be looking for more resources to continue this in the future. The cost increases for them in part because they have to pay all of the staff for the hours they are in training. It is worth it because they find it so valuable. They have grown as an organization because of the program and have learned how to ask difficult questions and address some of the serious issues the youth in rural Alaska are dealing with. They are trying their best to open their doors to anyone in crisis to help out in the communities. They look at the prevention as a way to lead toward intervention in a comfortable way to the organization. They look at this past year as a first step and plan to continue to provide it in the future because the rural communities are asking for the resources.



Vice-Chair Franks commented that the Council has tried to support different training programs, but the ones that succeed depend on organizations' level of commitment. She supports all of the programs and is happy to see the model work for Camp Fire Alaska. Moore commented that she found it interesting in the video what the camp staff have to deal with in the rural communities and the level of connectedness they have with the youth.

Hill commented that they go into communities they are invited to. They don't push the programs into any communities. They are constantly struggling with making sure the programs in the communities are sustainable. They try to create close connections with community members, so communities don't feel abandoned after the camp is over. They also try to collaborate with other agencies to help with sustainability. They are hoping to go to 29 communities this summer.

Cynthia Erickson commented that she is really impressed with the program. People are often afraid to talk about serious issues like suicide because there is a fear that it may trigger something, but she believes the opposite and that kids want to talk about these issues with trustworthy adults. The kids do like people from outside of their communities. Fishel commented that she thinks it's a great program. Vice-Chair Franks thanked them for attending the meeting and for the work they do.

### **State Plan Follow Up Conversation**

Morrison commented that Chairman Martin wanted to have a follow up conversation to the previous meeting discussion on the state plan. This is the opportunity to bring up any new ideas to include in the revised state plan. Rep. Tarr commented that she would like to see a nutritional page added to the plan. Burkhart commented that there are some new developments since the January meeting. She is nervous about the ability to get the plan done in the time due to shrinking resources at the state. When the previous plan was written there was a lot of help from the Alaska Mental Health Board and the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse staff, which donates her time salary to the Council. One of the planners has since left and the research analyst is going to be leaving shortly. Due to the hiring freeze there is not the ability to rehire those positions for the foreseeable future. The Council is not in the same place as it was when the current plan was developed. The plan revision may not happen as soon as the Council may hope. The plan may need to be delayed to be rewritten in 2017 rather than publishing it to begin 2017. The last plan had three iterations of public comment and with the resources available that is not feasible for this revision. She recommends one round of public comment. Rep. Tarr asked if there is an online comment opportunity. Burkhart commented that it is posted publicly on the state website. A lot of the plan is in place and it may not change much. The major changes would be adding something new or discarding certain strategies or even goals. If the Council doesn't want to do a major rework of the plan, there could be a small revision, put out to public comment, and stay the course that the Council has been on the past several years. That would be more manageable. Fishel commented that she likes the idea of a revision and sticking primarily to the current plan. Things take time to develop and to see progress and that is what is beginning to happen with the current plan. Tweaking things and adding a few things is a good idea, but there is no need to reinvent the wheel because the wheel is rolling and working.

Moore asked how the stakeholder input to the revision would look. Burkhart commented that there were a number of stakeholder events that were put on by the Council, as well as other public events that comments were derived from. There are a lot of opportunities for communicating with stakeholders. There can be stakeholder input through social media, public meetings, events, and other

ways. If the Council wants to do a robust redesign of the plan, there should be a robust process of stakeholder engagement. If there is a smaller revision to keep the plan in motion, that can be dialed back to some degree. Fishel commented that the Governor's Suicide Prevention Workgroup is becoming more aware of the plan and the strategies and working on ways to help implement them. She feels it would be more beneficial to stay with the plan and get more momentum by partnering with the Governor. By changing the plan drastically there could be a loss of momentum. Moore suggested having the initial plan of making the robust changes in five years after this next update. Burkhart commented that the Council is set to sunset in 2019, so the Council could revise the current plan slightly and move forward with it, while looking at a larger update near the time of the sunset date. Rep. Tarr commented that she would like to see a smaller revision this time to keep the momentum going. Since there is no money for lots of state services it might be best to keep the status quo and not over promise and under deliver. Burkhart commented that until there is more information about resources in the future, it sounds like the Council wants to stick with the primary content of the current plan with small revisions to be released in 2017. Vice-Chair Franks agreed and there was no objection from any other Council member.

#### **Faith-Based Training Follow-Up, Jim Wisland**

Jim Wisland thanked the Council for inviting him back to meet with the Council. The training he convened took place at the Alaska Bible College in Palmer in January. He had 16 students attend the course, seven of whom were Alaska Native. The age range was pretty broad, going from 19 years old to people in their mid-40s. The course was held Monday to Friday and was about 35 hours of instruction. The intent of the course was to learn about how to interpret scripture regarding suicide. They dealt with four key leaders in the history of the church that were influential on the topic of suicide. He felt that was important because they have impacted the church through their writing and a lot of gripping stories. Many of the students didn't know who those people were, but he thinks it was helpful. He also focused on psalms and biblical poetry related to suicide. They talked about different forms of prayer and how to listen. He thinks the listening section was very helpful to the students. This is the first time he has taught the class so it was a work in progress. He is going to Nome in a few weeks to teach it to other pastors from that region. He won't have the time to teach the entire course, but he is excited to get that information to the region that has a high rate of suicide. He will also be teaching some missionaries from Canada and Alaska in the summer.

Moore asked if there was a pre and post survey to see how attitudes may have changed about the issue after the course. Wisland had considered it but didn't do it. He now has a better sense of where the students were prior to the course and will likely do a survey in future trainings. He did get some good feedback from the students though.

Moore asked how the issue of depression was dealt with because many people believe that depression is a failure of one's faith. Wisland required the students to read a book prior to the classes called *Darkness Visible*. It is an account of a successful writer that becomes depressed and suicidal. It has no Christian connotations, and is just about mental health. He thought that the book would put a dent in the issue for the course. He is convinced that there were several students that were not moved and still believe that depression is a lack of faith, but there were a handful of others that he believes changed their views.

Burkhart asked if it would be helpful having materials that he could take with him to his future trainings. The postvention guide has information on clergy and how faith-based leaders can respond to suicide. Wisland commented that it would be helpful. A handout could be a good complement, but he won't have time to cover the material. Burkhart commented that those guides will be provided. She appreciates that he was able to create this training for a specific constituency that the Council has wanted to engage with over the years.

Vice Chair Franks thanked Wisland for the training and for keeping the Council updated through the entire process. Wisland thanked the Council for the support.

### **Summer Meeting Planning**

Burkhart commented that the summer meeting will be held via videoconference and teleconference on June 23. Based on the events of today, if this is a one-day meeting, a big chunk of the meeting should be on the AFN events and the communications plan. Also having an update on the Governor's workgroup, that is a full day. About half of the day will be about communication and AFN. Burkhart asked if people supported that. Fishel, Moore, Franks and Erickson all agreed. Vice-Chair Franks asked if there was any more discussion. Hearing none, moved on to final comments.

### **Final Comments**

Moore commented that she appreciated the agenda and thought it was a good meeting. She also enjoyed seeing the implementation report and feels it turned out well.

Fishel thank Vice Chair Franks for running a positive meeting.

Erickson commented that she thinks it is a good idea to stick with the majority of the current plan because it takes a while to get things moving and there is some real progress being made. She wants to make sure there is more of a focus on healing at AFN rather than focusing on suicide. There is a fine line between helping and sensationalizing.

Vice Chair Franks commented that her thoughts and prayers are with Chairman Martin. She enjoyed the agenda and thought there were some good conversations.

Fishel made a **motion** to adjourn. Moore **seconded**. The meeting **adjourned at 3:17 p.m.**