

Tecumseh State Correctional Institution
Family Council Meetings
7/26/17 – HU #2 and3
7/27/17 – SMU / ISDP
7/27/17 – HU #1

Facilitator: Warden Hansen/DW Scott Busboom/AW Bulling-June
Recorder: AAll DeFreece



Issues Discussed:

- **Vending Machine:**
The vending machine on the Far East side isn't lining up right when trying to make a selection. *This has been reported to the business office and they have made arrangements for the vendor come and look at the machine.*

- **Visitor Dress Code:**
What is posted on the website about the visitor dress code and what is known by Gatehouse staff do not appear to coincide. *Deputy Warden Busboom said administration is constantly working on eliminating inconsistencies and will have staff check into this to ensure staff and the website are on the same page.*

- **Website:**
The way the website is worded it gives the impression anyone wanting to visit an inmate housed in Housing Unit 2 needs to call ahead 3 days to schedule a visit. *There will be clarification on the website about calling ahead 3 days for visits. Housing Unit 2/B visitors need to call ahead to schedule a visit, but this does not pertain to the rest of Housing Unit 2.*

The wording about what time Gatehouse staff will stop processing visitors is confusing. Website wording will be reviewed to be sure it is distinct that Gatehouse staff stops processing visitors one hour before the end of the session.

- **Visitors Waiting for Inmates:**
There appears to be a lag time between when an inmate receives a pass and how long it takes to get to the visiting room. *Warden Hansen said there could be a number of reasons for a delay but he will have this complaint reviewed. Warden Hansen and Deputy Warden Busboom stressed that they, along with NDCS, understand the importance of family visits and maintaining ties with family and friends and strive to make this a priority for inmates.*

- **Scheduling Family Council Meetings:**
It was requested to schedule Family Council meetings on a Friday. *AW Bulling-June is going to schedule the next meeting on a Friday. She has tried to alternate between Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to provide the option for everyone who wants to attend to do so.*

- **Blurry Pictures and the Size of the Crop Cloth:**

Four people cannot fit for a picture the way the back drop is hanging. *AW Bulling-June will place a work order to have the back drop turned sideways.*

Some pictures are turning out blurry. *AW Bulling-June explained an inmate needs to provide her with the blurry picture and she will issue a pass to have the photo retaken. (Inmates are aware of this procedure). The camera has been upgraded.*

- **Weekend visits for Housing Units 2 and 3:**

It was requested to have visits for Housing Unit 2 and 3 combined on Saturday and Sundays. *AW Bulling-June states visits are combined during the week to encourage more traffic during the week and less on weekends. This policy only allows for one visit to occur on a weekend. This is not something TSCI can accommodate.*

- **Posting Friends and Families Flyers:**

FFI flyers are not getting posted on the units. *When the flyer is provided to the facility, they are posted in the Housing Units and all activity areas for inmates. The problem is that we cannot guarantee they remain posted; however, they do get posted once provided.*

- **Increase in Amount Allowed:**

Since prices in the vending machines have increased can visitors starting bring up more money to account for the increase in cost? *AW Bulling-June explained the policy states each person (visitor) can bring in \$20.00 apiece. For example; if a mother of 3 comes in to visit she could potentially bring in \$80.00 total. This is why NDCS is not willing to increase the amount. AW Bulling-June will speak with Gatehouse staff to make sure they know the amount allowed is \$20.00 person, not \$20.00 per adult.*