Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm. Council members present were Brent Messer, Leann Egeto, Susan Nelson, Jay Herron, Randolph Jones, Michele Cripe, and Camie Cromie. Staff members present were Karon Walker and Rita Lawrence. Minutes from November meeting approved. No officer reports.

Staff Reports

Laura Kalt updated the Council via written report on the status of our 30th Anniversary Dinner. It will be held April 12, 7-9pm, at Ironwood Golf Course. The speaker is Sheriff Darnell, and there will be a performance by the spoken word art group 3rd Eye Spoken. The Theme is Pearls - Celebrating 30 Years of Service. Laura has lost contact at least temporarily with The Hungry Ram, who she was negotiating with about catering the event. She is still open to trying other caterers, if they can provide dinner for a price near $17 per person. Staff are meeting at 3pm on Friday, January 26th, to discuss more details, and Council members were invited to attend.

Rita Lawrence reported that 2 sexual violence support groups are currently being offered. One is for girls ages 9-12 and the other is for adult survivors of rape and will incorporate yoga and talk support. She discussed the desire/need to design a group for male survivors, and requested Council assistance in both developing a curriculum for the group and in advertising and educating the community about the service. Karon Walker discussed plans to offer a homicide group later in the spring.

Old Business

The Council prioritized Awareness and Advocacy as their prime focus at this time. Discussion centered on increasing volunteer recruitment to be able to offer extended and enhanced services, and educating the community through employers and institutions about responding sensitively to survivors as well as making them aware of services available through the Center. Leann Egeto offered to help distribute fliers for volunteer recruitment and support groups, and contact Veteran's Administration psychologist and trauma specialist to invite them to apply to the Council and/or speak to the board. Susan Nelson suggested using a routine schedule to send out PSA's for volunteer recruitment. Karon Walker informed Council members that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and that a media blitz is especially desired at this time.

The Council requests a report from Director Loretta Golden that builds a case for a sexual assault shelter, including statistics on how often survivors are in need of shelter and what we now spend to house victims.

Brent Messer discussed a suggestion from last meeting that the Council use the County Sharepoint Website to communicate. This is not possible because not all Council members are employees of Alachua County, and only County employees have access to the sharepoint site. He suggested that another site may be able to be tailored for Council members' use. Further discussion was tabled until the Council is more developed.

New Business:

Motion 1 - To form a program committee to assist staff in promoting support groups. Approved. Jay Herron, Randolph Jones, Camie Cromie, and Michele Cripe volunteered to serve on this committee.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm. Next meeting February 22, 2007, 5-7:30pm, in new Community Support Services Conference Room.