



Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

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*Director DHHS*

## COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

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**Tuesday, March 15, 2022**

**7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

### **Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kimberly Alfriend, Bonnie Beavers, Carol Cichowski, Bruce Clark, Don Chisholm, Eddie Ellis, Tracey Friedlander, Gerda Gallop-Goodman, Melissa Goemann, Chris Jennison, Ijeoma Okoro, Erynn Penn, Michael Pinard, Jonathan Scriven, Tom Smith, Ebony Stoutmiles, Heather Sweren, Thomas Squire, Shuaa Tajammul, and Erin Whaley.

**AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Joanna Bonner, Amy Daum, Francha Davis, Frank Duncan, Steve Miller, Steve Neff, Nathaniel Tipton, and Carlotta Woodward

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Susan Farag, Joshua Pestaner and Kevin Redden

**ABSENT EMERITUS MEMBERS:** Carole L Brown, Chris Fogleman, and Wendy Pulliam.

**STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:** Diane Lininger.

**GUESTS:** Toriano Cross, Ellen O'Connell, Sharon Lemone, Nathaniel Parks, Dr. Rolando Santiago, Tia Scott and Katherine Smithson.

- I. **Welcome** – Chair, Christopher Jennison, welcomed members, called meeting to order, and communicate the goals of the meeting to present members and guests.
- II. **Attendance** – Diane took attendance and asked all attendees to mute microphones unless speaking.
- III. **Speaker** - Nathaniel T. Parks, DHHS, re: Plum Garden Shootings – PowerPoint emailed out
  - Collaboration by agencies and individuals, including families involved in incident; Eco mapping of those involved, and releases signed by families
    - The team wanted to make sure they did not cause any further violent incidents
  - Conflict was brewing in community before shooting.

- Presentation by Sharon Lemone, DHHS
  - o Assigned the accused shooter's family, interacted with his mother who was very willing to work with DHHS
  - o Family was quickly moved out of Seneca Ridge community into temp housing in a hotel
  - o What could have been done better
- Ellen O'Connel, DHHS
  - o How got to collaboration
  - o Wrap around collaboration with MCPS, DHHS, etc.
  - o Team took accountability if things went wrong. The collaboration took them out of isolation of school PPW standpoint into working collaboratively to help family
- Katherine Smithson, Identity
  - o Worked with family of person who lost their life
  - o Provides intensive case mgt to families or cases that require relocation
- Toriano Cross, DHHS
  - o Process is important, immediate answers are not always possible
  - o "The Ridge Boys", others involved
  - o "Band Up" group
  - o Still working with families
- Nathaniel Parks, CWS
  - o 3 families relocated, 2 permanently
  - o Kids back in school because of collaboration
- Questions
  - o Carlotta Woodward, States Attorneys' Office: indicated she is a prosecutor on the case and made her presence known to speakers
  - o Frank Duncan, Department of Juvenile Services: These are informal cases, should they be crossover cases with DJS? One child was involved with CWS case, was a victim. That is why it was not a crossover
  - o Carol Cichowski, Citizen Commissioner: What other incidents would trigger this type of response? Actively spilling conflict, DHS, school, etc. Wanted to be across systems to address violence
    - Magruder shooting also triggered a crisis response, collaborated
  - o PowerPoint requested
  - o Donald Chisholm, Citizen Commissioner: How does DHHS characterize social media in this circumstance? Good and bad, helps get information about individuals involved. Threats shared with MCP. Able to engage families on social media.
  - o Sharon Lemone: social media comment. The alleged shooter's family went back into old community and there was another shooting. But mother then realized to get mental health services for herself and her children.
  - o Eddie Ellis, Citizen Commissioner: utilizing people in communities that have past criminal issues but changed their life, for the children to look up to? Yes. Also, Toriano Cross is in this position. Also provide guest speakers, i.e. at Clarksburg jail. Also use vendor for county to help. They have individual community connections.

**IV. Old business:** February Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes by unanimous consent

**V. New business**

- Donald Chisholm, Citizen Member:
  - Montgomery County Town hall on Mental Health
  - The president and VP of council recognized impact of covid on mental health issues
  - Bullying re: adults and children
  - Inability of parents to reach counselors regarding behavioral problems despite trying and leaving voicemails in MCPS. Particularly difficult for language barriers. Country Council trying to address problems.
- Chris Jennison, Chair
  - Council met in person for the first time today in 2 years
  - Fiscal year 2023 operating budget rolled out today by County Exec
  - April meeting potential speakers
  - May meeting is meeting with Judges
    - Smith, Ryon, McAuliffe
  - June meeting topic – Any suggestions
  - New leadership needed for next year for commission
  - Need nominating committee members to help identify potential leaders for commission

**VII. Meeting Adjourned.**