



Marc Elrich  
*County Executive*

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## COMMISSION ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

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### February Retreat Meeting Minutes

**Saturday, February 23, 2019**

**CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT:** Diana Barney, Chris Fogleman, Karen Francis, Gwen Williams, Tracey Friedlander, Dan Gaskill, Christopher Jennison, Erynn Penn, Wendy Pulliam, Kevin Redden, Thomas Squire, and Ebony Stoutmiles.

**AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Francha Davis, Susan Farag, Cary Fellows, Sean Gagen, Steve Neff, and Molly Vogel.

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Kimberly Alfriend, Joanna Bonner, Carole Brown, Bonnie DeWitt, Frank Duncan, Kelly Harper, Vernon Scott, Mary Siegfried, Michael Subin, Elijah Wheeler, and Carlotta Woodward.

**STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:** Liana Ventimiglia filling in for Diane Lininger

- I. **Welcome and Introduction** – Chris Fogleman, Chairperson, Commission on Juvenile Justice. Chris Fogelman welcomed everyone and quickly reviewed the agenda for the day.
- II. **Speaker: Dr Elaine Bonner-Tomkins** - Presentation of Office of Legislative Oversight Report on Racial Equity. Dr. Bonner-Tomkins presented a power-point overview of the Office of Legislative Oversight Report on Racial Equity.
- III. **Discussion on Pending/Proposed Bills**
  - A. The Commission discussed the following bills and no action was proposed: SB013, SB401, SB625, SB011, SB856.
  - B. For HB0418, SB0823, SB0624, HB581 -- Discussion. Commission supports bills as submitted and voted to send a letter of support for each.
  - C. HB0418: Motion to support by Francha Davis. Second by Dan Gaskin. All in favor  
SB0823: Motion to support Dan Gaskin. Second by Steve Neff. 1 against. Motion carried.
  - D. HB0581: Karen motioned to support bill. Cary seconded. All in favor.

- E. For HB011 – Commission voted to send a letter of support with specific language: "The Montgomery County Commission on Juvenile Justice supports HB011 to the extent that the purpose of this bill is to treat all juveniles the same regardless of whether they are originally charged as juveniles or adults."
- F. SB0624 – Commission voted to express general support with a letter expressing the following "The Montgomery County Commission on Juvenile Justice is generally supportive of community detention but would need to see the final details of SB0624 before supporting this legislation specifically. The Commission would like to emphasize the importance of ensuring that any child ordered to be held in a detention facility that also holds adults shall: (1) have adequate supervision to ensure the child's safety, and (2) be held in a ward of the facility that is entirely separate from adults, sight and sound at all times. We want to emphasize, however, our strong opposition to solitary confinement. Tracey motioned to support, and Chris Jennison seconded. All in favor.

#### IV **Addressing Equity: A Call for Deeper Understanding and Collective Action**

Karen Francis gave an interactive presentation on the topic of Equity. There was lively discussion and participation.

#### V **Executive Committee Discussion/Business Items**

Youth Commission Representation

Commissioners received a draft proposal from the Care and Custody Committee regarding youth representation on the Commission. Youth members would contribute a unique perspective to issues that would deepen the Commission's understanding of the population's needs. Membership would also allow the participating youth to gain invaluable experience as advocates and representatives seeking social change. Gwen Williams facilitated a discussion on eligibility, recruitment, and selection. It was suggested that the Committee members reach out to other county commissions, the Maryland State Advisory Group, and various other groups and organizations representing juvenile justice interests and needs. Chris suggested that some of the judges may be able to refer a young person that had been through the jj system.

Chris Fogleman thanked our presenters and attendees for their participation. There were no new business items.

#### VI. **Meeting Adjourned 3:15**

Commission on Juvenile Justice

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