



**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Isiah Leggett**  
County Executive

**Uma Ahluwalia**  
Director

**Tuesday, January 17, 2017**

**7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

**Executive Office Building**

**101 Monroe Street, 9<sup>th</sup> floor conference room, Rockville, MD**

**Meeting Minutes**

**CITIZEN MEMBERS PRESENT:** Shezhad Akhtar, Maria Blaeuer, Chris Fogleman, Karen Frances, Christopher Jennison, Jessica Markham, Perry Paylor, Erynn Penn, Roberta Pieczenik, and Tisha Wiley.

**AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Amy Bills, Gloria Bowen, Francha Davis (Vice-Chair) Frank Duncan, Cary Fellows, Risa Mainprize, Michael Subin and Elijah Wheeler.

**ABSENT MEMBERS:** Carole Brown, Bonnie DeWitt, Susan Farag, Mike Gruenberg, Stacey Gurian-Sherman, Captain James Humphries, Carlean Ponder (Chair), Wendy Pulliam, Sierra Ross and Mary Siegfried.

**STAFF LIAISON PRESENT:** Diane Lininger

**GUESTS:** Marji Josh and Karyn Gross

**I. Announcements:**

- A. Introductions
- B. Welcome to our new members Sierra Ross, Cary Fellows and Christopher Jennison
- C. Retreat – the retreat will be held on February 18, 2017 (Snow date February 25, 2017) at 1301 Piccard drive, 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room. A sheet was passed around to sign up to attend the retreat.

- D. At the beginning of the retreat; Agency members will be asked to introduce themselves, talk about what they do in their job and how it relates to the Commission.
- E. The first half of the retreat will be the Government and Community Relations committee discussing legislation and how the Commission should be involved or not.

## **II. Old Business:**

- A. November 2016 meeting minutes
- B. Voted on and approved without and changes

## **III. New Business**

- A. Elijah Wheeler discussed the Re-engagement center for Montgomery County, presented the funding situation and how the Commission can support the center
  - a. What is the funding situation?
    - i. There is currently no funding, state or local (state must cut 2% of funding)
    - ii. Current status on the Re-engagement center for Montgomery County: Not happening due to no funding
  - b. Is there anything that the collaboration council has worked on that may be of interest to the commission?
    - i. Noyes turnaround with staff members due to funding and pay scales
  - c. What is the proposed budget – how much money do you think it would take to run it for a year?
    - i. \$375, 000
    - ii. \$500,000 for the first year (including startup costs)
  - d. Is there anything the commission can do to help?
    - i. Not right now
  - e. Is still hopeful to get it done at all?
- B. Maria Blaueur reported the update on the Task force for Strip searching and shackling.
  - a. The task force has recently adopted tracking recommendations and language from DJS
  - b. They are looking at video conferencing

## **IV. Sub-Committee Reports**

- A. Custody and Placement
  - a. Letter for Noyes funding – will be voted on at retreat
  - b. Letter for placements and programming for females who are involved (funding for specific programs) – will be voted on at retreat
  - c. Retreat presentations
    - i. ERC (detention alternative) post disposition – discussed with Frank Duncan
    - ii. How is the ERC doing?
      - 1. referral numbers are up

- d. Frank Duncan explained the ERC – day reporting center after school (instead of going to detention)
- e. Elijah Wheeler requested that care and custody look to MCPS for a day reporting center: used to be county funded centers, but they do not all exist anymore
- f. One program to look at is the Phoenix house: substance abuse school
  - i. (identify students with drug abuse problems anonymously) Safe and drug free school funding – was government funded, and when they stopped, Montgomery County stopped, because they believed that they did not have a problem
- g. Working on establishing a new program
- B. Government and Community Relations
  - a. What positions should the commission take on these bills?
  - b. These discussions will be expanded at the retreat
    - i. Senate Bill 0005
      - o Prohibits continued detention beyond emergency detention for those under 12 years old unless committed first degree murder, etc (dangerous offenses)
      - o Problem noticed: precludes a judge from placing them in detention
      - o Does not take community and offender safety into account
      - o Find out who it affects and how (is Montgomery County affected by this?)
    - ii. Senate Bill 0035
      - o Juvenile informal adjustment process may go beyond 90 days if the substance abuse or mental health counseling needs more time
      - o Already in place that if they are in treatment, they can be kept for 6 months
      - o Can currently ask for an extension
      - o Worried that with this bill, they may not do anything for the first 90 days
        - 1. Find out if DJS supported this bill or not
        - 2. We should read current laws and regulations
        - 3. More marijuana use since it has been decriminalized
    - iii. Senate Bill 0043
      - o Specified provision on juvenile court record confidentiality for the department of human resources for federal funding – they can have access, but still require a court order
      - o 38827 – provision number

**V. Meeting Adjourned at 8:44 p.m.**