

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD of SOCIAL SERVICES**  
**February 6, 2023 | 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM**  
**HELD VIRUTALLY**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**Board Members**

**HHS and Council Staff**

Name	Title	Present	Name	Title	Present
Marquette Rogers	Chair	X	Oscar Mensah	HHS Staff	X
Marcy Frosh	Secretary	X	Hannah Shaw	HHS Staff	X
Kendell Battle	Member	X	Logan Anbinder	Council Staff	X
Chanté Leverette	Member	X	Cait Gardiner	Council Staff	X
Brandon Bragg	Member	X			
Swapnika Madhavaram	Member	X			
Loveline Tangwan	Member	X			
Michele Levy	Member				
Dawn Luedtke	Council Member	X			

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting was called to order by **Chair** Marquette Rogers at 4:13 PM, with a quorum present.

**II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

- A motion to accept the January 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes was made by Kendell Battle and seconded by Brandon Bragg. The vote to accept the Minutes was unanimous.

**III. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

- **Chair** welcomed **Council Member Dawn Luedtke** and requested introductions of all attending.
- **Chair** encouraged attendance by Board Members at the February 11 (9:30 AM) hybrid (in-person and virtual) Board Meeting of the Maryland Association of Social Services Boards (MASSB). He highlighted a topic of interest to follow up on the example of Hartford Community College to increase training opportunities by working to set up a large, inclusive conference with Montgomery County Community College to support training opportunities in our County. **Council Member Luedtke** asked to receive information and offered support.
- **Outreach and Communications Committee**
  - The BSS letter of support (drafted by Brandon Bragg) for a project of the **Commission on People with Disabilities** to develop a Sensory Trail in Fairview Park in Silver Spring was sent.
  - Marcy Frosh and Chante Leverette asked to meet with the **Citizen Review Panel for Children** and were invited to participate in the January 10 Board meeting by new Board Chair Stacey McNeely. (Marcy Frosh had meet previously with former Board Chair Marci McCoy). The goal of meeting is to explore the potential for future partnership opportunities. MCCRCP conducted a Foster Parent Survey and is working on next steps. Further discussion will follow.
- **Legislation Committee** – Aligned with the goal to track and advise on bills that HHS is following (as presented by Government Affairs for the State for state bills and County bills), **Chair** noted a series of bills introduced by Del. Jared Solomon (Dist. 18) on topics such as early childhood development and meals for students (“Meals for Enrichment”).

#### IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

- Ongoing Business – **Chair** envisions increasing opportunities for action across all four areas:
  - i. Increasing Opportunities for Transitioning Youth
  - ii. Supporting Greater Trauma Informed Education
  - iii. Service Area Advocacy
  - iv. Expanding Collaboration efforts with other Boards, Commissions and Committees

#### V. NEW BUSINESS –

- **Chair** noted an email received from Michele Levy with two items:
  1. Request for a central list of Board/Commission meeting schedules with the offer to attend meetings. ACTION: Research and provide list.
  2. At a Nonprofit Montgomery session with Clear Impact, she learned that the County is a client in their scoreboard approach and asks if learning more about the integration of this data scoreboard is within the scope of BSS as a possible advocacy tool. ACTION: Response and follow up with encouragement of the Chair. Kendall Battle offered to participate.
- **HHS’ Oscar Mensah** asked the Board to think about the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of trauma-informed education. Chante Leverette agreed previously to take on the role of working on new ideas. ACTION: Discuss next steps with Chante Leverette.
- **Chair** asked **Council Member Luedtke** about her priorities. She noted mental/behavioral health – filling gaps in care and treatment, ensuring access to preventive care for seniors, lower-income individuals and others, and making sure that agencies and those who deliver care talk together so that information is available pre-crisis and pre-need. She also identified her interest in policy areas (noting also the ACES and Handle to Care program) including: increasing mental health care for students by allowing tele-therapy and tele-health in schools, and dropping student age of consent for therapy to age 12.

**Council Member Luedtke** is assigned to BSS and will share events, etc. going forward.

- **Chair** stated that he attended the January 26, 2023 Boards, Committees and Commissions (BCC) Chair meeting, where he highlighted the current BSS Board priorities.
- **HHS’ Oscar Mensah** stated that the HHS Director role hasn’t yet been filled. Dr. James Bridges will be serving as the Acting Director of HHS until that happens.

#### VI. ADJOURNMENT

- Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:13 PM. The motion to adjourn was made by Marcy Frosh and seconded by Brandon Bragg.

**Next Meeting:** *Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – 4:00 – 6:00 PM (Virtual – Microsoft Teams)*

Submitted by:

Marcy Frosh, Secretary

February 6, 2023