

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD of SOCIAL SERVICES
January 9, 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			
Brandon Bragg	Member	X			
Swapnika Madhavaram	Member				
Loveline Tangwan	Member	X			
Michele Levy	Member	X			
Vacant	Member				
Vacant	Member				
Vacant Councilmember	Member				

I. CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was officially called to order by Chair Marquette Rogers at 4:05 PM, with a quorum present.

II. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- A motion to accept the December 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes was made by Brandon Bragg and seconded by Michele Levy. The vote to accept the Minutes was unanimous.

III. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Chair** noted two items related to the Maryland Association of Social Services Boards: 1) a vacancy for a Foundation Trustee; and 2) potential to bring attention to the Council the need for more training opportunities for Montgomery County Community College.
- **Outreach and Communications Committee**
 - Brandon Bragg drafted a letter in support from BSS for a project of the **Commission on People with Disabilities** to develop a Sensory Trail in Fairview Park in Silver Spring. All Board members were sent the draft letter and a follow up, and approval was received at the Meeting by all Board members (Swapnika Madhavaram’s by earlier email) to submit the letter of support.
 - Marcy Frosh was in communication with the **Citizen Review Panel for Children’s** Co-Chair Stacey McNeely, who invited BSS participation at their January 10 Board meeting to hear their priorities -- with the potential for future partnership opportunities. Marcy Frosh reached out to Chante Leverette about the opportunity (noting that Samaura Stone, who had previously expressed interest, left the Board).
- **Legislation Committee** – No report. The Chair asked if a Board Member is interested in serving as Legislation Committee Chair. Clarification was requested by Brandon Bragg as to the function of the Committee and Oscar Mensah explained a primary 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 as well.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

- Letter of Support – Commission on People with Disabilities approved at the meeting – **ACTION:** Letter for final review, signature, and transmission by the Chair.
- Determining Next Steps for:
 - i. Increasing Opportunities for Transitioning Youth – **ACTION:** Plan to connect with the Citizen Review Panel for Children. Marcy Frosh and/or Chante Leverette will join their January 10 virtual Board Meeting to hear about their priorities and potential opportunities for partnership.
 - ii. Supporting Greater Trauma Informed Education – Kendall Battle raised the concern that people do not know about existing programs and asked how those in need can be reached where they are. Chante Leverette asked for focus on the audience for BSS. Discussion followed with Oscar Mensah clarifying efforts that align with the BSS mandate. **ACTION:** Further steps on potential to develop a video which could be shared with key audiences
 - iii. Service Area Advocacy - Discussion regarding BSS priorities and the new County Council. New HHS Committee members were identified as Gabe Albornoz, Dawn Luedtke, and Laurie Ann Sayles. Kendall Battle asked if one or more of these Committee members could be invited to speak to the Board. **ACTION:** HHS staffer Logan Anbinder asked to confer with Oscar Mensah about the potential to invite Council Member(s) to meet with the Board (Oscar Mensah noting the importance of aligning Board priorities for such an invitation)
 - iv. Expanding Collaboration efforts with other Boards, Commissions and Committees. Brief comments with more discussion to follow.

V. NEW BUSINESS - None.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

- Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:30 PM. The motion to adjourn was made by Brandon Bragg and seconded by Loveline Tangwan.

Next Meeting: *Monday, February 6th, 2023 – 4:00 – 6:00 PM (Virtual – Microsoft Teams)*

Submitted by:

Marcy Frosh, Secretary

January 9, 2023