

# VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (VSAB)

February 23, 2023

**Attendance:** Wendy Ayala, Neda Bolourian, Brian Koosed, Kathryn Pontzer, Leah Schwartz, and Heather Thompson.

**Members Absent:** Larry Center, Reem Sharaf, David Young

**Ex-Officio Members Absent:** Ellen Alexander and Dolores Briceno.

**Support Staff:** Dr. Rafiah Prince and Maria Solis (Vicky)

**Guest:** Susan Holloway and Nazeefa Hossain

## I. Additions to Agenda

No additions to Agenda

## II. Roll Call & Virtual Meeting Procedures – Neda Bolourian

- The rules for a virtual Board meeting are as follows:

The chair will call the roll to establish a quorum.

Members need to identify themselves when they are talking.

Members may be asked to identify anyone who is present with them during the call.

The public may be asked to mute the call on their end to avoid interruptions.

The public may be muted by the chair.

Public bodies might wish to consider including any ground rules in the meeting notice.

## III. Approval of Minutes from January 26, 2023, meeting.

- The Minutes were not approved due to quorum.

## IV. Guest Speaker – Emanuel House Division Director Susan Holloway

- Speaker Susan Holloway provided a description of the Emmanuel House's services.
- Additional funding to change requirements for victims.
- Changes might require more than funding.
- Presentation on partnership and services.

## V. Executive Subcommittee update- Neda, Brian, Wendy

- Board members have received positive feedbacks from various meetings with councilmembers.
- County Executive Marc Elrich's office will contact Board members with a date to schedule a meeting.
- The importance of understanding Bridge Housing and Rapid Re Housing eligibility.
- Cross-Board Working Group to Teaming up ICH on Bridge Housing.
- Police accountability was discussed in the Family Justice Center meeting.
- Montgomery County Police Department requires investigation for law enforcement officers.
- An investigation of an officer might take thirty days and then proceeds to charging committee for review.
- Director can increase or lessen the disciplinary actions for police officers.
- Council member Dawn Luedtke shared informational resolutions regarding her concerns.
- Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission suggested a follow up meeting with council member Dawn Luedtke
- Kathryn will follow up with council member Dawn Luedtke.

## VI. Proposed Rule on Notice to Tenants of Crimes on Premises – Brian

- Landlords are required to provide information to tenants when crime has occurred.
- Safety issues were addressed.

## **VII. Legislative Subcommittee Update -Kathryn, Neda**

- Status of Bills that the Victim Services Advisory Board is supporting for 2023 Legislative Session were discussed.
- The Victim Compensation Alterations Bill BH861, senate bill has been sent to the Judicial proceedings.
- First draft on Survivors seeking Criminal Justice- Explanation of Decision Not to Prosecute to be submitted by Monday 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Bh209 Sexual 3 reading move to senate.
- Update on Letters of Support.
- Division of Labor.

## **VIII. Updated Brochures and Other Materials for VASAP/APP/VSAB**

- N/A

## **IX. Membership/Vacancies – Brian/Rafiah**

- Follow up with Beth Gochrach, regarding applicants for the Board's positions.
- Conduct interviews for the Victim Services Advisory Board.

## **X. Public Affairs/Events Subcommittee updates – Leah**

- No additions

## **XI. Announcements/Comments/New Business**

- Social Event – Thursday March 17 at 6:15 p.m.

**Adjournment 8:30 PM**

**Next Meeting:**

**March 23, 2022, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**