

VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (VSAB)

July 23, 2020

Attendance:, Ronald Cohen, Amos Hicks III, Brian Koosed, Jessica J. Leslie, April Marrone, Kathryn Pontzer, Juanita Rogers, Leah Schwartz, Reem Sharaf, Robin Stimson.

Members Absent: Neda Bolourian, Iraina (Liz) Bringanty-Vidal, Quintaria Brunson.

Ex-Officio Members absent: Ellen Alexander and Rebecca Marcolini.

Support Staff: Maria Carzon and Rafiah Prince.

I. Additions to Agenda

- No additions.

II. Virtual Meeting Procedures and Discussion - Kathryn Pontzer

- 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 June 2020 meeting

- The June 25, 2020 Minutes were approved.

IV. VSAB Board – Board at Large

- Sub-committee membership – Kathryn Pontzer/Juanita Rogers
- They will have someone to come speak to the Board about the Legislative Session at a future Board meeting.
 - Action item:** Rafiah will send Leslie Frey an email to set it up.
- April recommends keeping the structure of Chair and Co-chair for Executive subcommittees. Juanita will replace April. They need all 5 members participating actively due to lots of going on, such as meetings with Council members and the County Executive.
- The directory committee has served its purpose, it can be removed as a subcommittee.
- Rafiah is working with Beth Gochrach to get this organized so the Board can start interviewing candidates for the Board vacancies. Members will be needed to conduct interviews.
- Robin cannot attend the CJCC meeting in August. Robin will send the CJCC August meeting information for Leah to attend.

V. Annual Report Update - April Marrone

April incorporated the received edits to the Annual report, except for the service provider interviewed by Cinder. VASAP and APP need to be better linked within the bubble chart.

Action Item: Kathryn will add that information.

Action Item: Rafiah will make the APP and VASAP connections.

VI. Executive Subcommittee updates - Kathryn Pontzer

- Leah attended the July 9, 2020 Domestic Violence Coordinating Council (DVCC) meeting; Tina Michaels, from the Montgomery County Detention Center wants to collaborate on helping offenders. Tom Manion, FJC Director wants to collaborate on housing for domestic violence victims and their family. Kathryn recommends we continue with our current priorities; however, investigate and collaborate with other boards and commissions for additional support.
Action Item: Leah will follow up with Tina Michael and Kathryn will follow up with Tom to get more information.
- The board is interested in finding out what is needed to support the program given the current challenges with the pandemic.
Action Item: Rafiah will check with Nadja to set it up a meeting with Ellen and Linda.
- Councilmember, Evan Glass, who is on the Housing Committee, will present at the September Board meeting.
Action Item: Brian will send the ICAH testimony to Mr. Glass.
- Amos spoke with Judge Greenberg about the letter of support from the judges. Judge Greenberg wants to discuss it with Judge Mitchell, to draft his own correspondence to remain as neutral as possible.
- Robin attended the Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission (CJCC) meeting on July 22, 2020. They will begin meeting monthly instead of every other month. They are focusing on police reform and how to hire and retain better officers. They are hiring an independent auditor to look at Montgomery County Police.

VII. Legislative Sub-committee updates – Robin Stimson

- Robin wants to add the social media # hashtag days to the Legislative calendar.
Action item: Robin and Leah will add World Humanitarian Day, August 19, 2020.
- Interested members are needed to prepare for 2021 General Assembly.

VIII. Public Affairs/Events Subcommittee updates – Leah Schwartz

- The Take Back the Night event has been rescheduled for October. If you know attend any event, please let the Public Affairs/Events subcommittee know and send a photo of it. This will show that we are represented in different parts of the County.

IX. Update on RFP for APP offender groups – Rafiah Prince

- The contract has yet to be finalized.

X. Announcements/Comments/New Business

- Please contact Rafiah to help with setting up a virtual meeting for any of the subcommittees.

Adjournment 8:25 PM

Next Meeting:

September 24, 2020, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM