

VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (VSAB)

June 22, 2023

Attendance: Wendy Ayala, Neda Bolourian, Larry Center, Brian Koosed, Kathryn Pontzer, Alan Schulman, Reem Sharaf, Heather Thompson, Jasmin Whitfield, and David Young.

Members Absent: Shanquenetta Anderson and Leah Schwartz.

Ex-Officio Members: Ellen Alexander.

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Dolores Briceno.

Support Staff: Dr. Rafiah Prince and Carla Bradley.

I. Additions to Agenda

No additions to Agenda

II. Roll Call & Virtual Meeting Procedures – Brian Koosed

- 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 May 25, 2023, meeting. – Brian

- The minutes have been approved.

IV. Introduction of New Members– Brian

- Jasmin Whitfield, DHHS, Nursing Consultant under School Health Program Manager.
- Alan Schulman, Insurance Benefits and Advisors
- Shanquenetta Anderson. (Absent)
- New board members must go through orientation after they been accepted to the board.
- Rosalia Scotman manager for DHHS, Behavioral Health & Crisis Service, Trauma Services was present in the Victim Services Advisory Board meeting.
- Doodle poll will be created and sent to all members for orientation availability.

V. Executive Subcommittee Update – Brian

- Executive subcommittee primarily focuses on meeting with members of the county council and county executive office to advocate for victims' rights.
- Executive subcommittee mainly focus specially issues with budgeting.
- Encourage board members to attend next meeting of the coalition for the homeless in August which will be in person at the Rockville Memorial Library.
- The coalition for the homeless meeting will cover the housing issues.
- The Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission did not have a full meeting this month.
- Next meeting will be in July.
- There are no updates for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission.

VI. Legislative Subcommittee Update– Kathryn

- Legislative subcommittee primarily focuses on legislation at State and County level that may impact victims and victims' right issues.
- The streamline of our legislative support process for the next legislative session will be discussed.
- Process to get approval from the county of legislation that we want to write testimony or support etc.

- Kathryn Pontzer offered to help new members regarding legislative subcommittee work performance.
- New action plan for the 2024 legislation session will be discussed with Neda Bolourian, Brian Koosed and Dr. Rafiah Prince first.
- The Victim Services Advisory Board has a list of priority bills we want to support.
- The Victim Services Advisory Board wants to simplify the approval of bills and the ability to move forward with the bills that the Board will be supporting.
- The possibility to have more in person meetings.

VII. Annual Report – Google Doc Sign Up and Timing– Brian/Rafiah/Neda

- This year's annual report did not have data analysis of the service providers in county for victims so will be more streamlined.
- A copy of last 2021 annual report will be added to google doc.
- The new Board members are not obligated to participate in the annual report.
- The Annual report will be available on Google Docs for Board members to sign up.

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

- Neda Bolourian and Dr. Rafiah Prince shared Victim Services Advisory Board brochures during the meeting.
- Board members agreed to update brochures for the Victim Services Advisory Board.
- Discussed the need to update materials for Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program/Abused Persons Programs for the courthouse.
- Discussed program name and change some of the language to provide some understanding to the court system of what the programs actually do.

IX. Membership/Vacancies– Brian/Rafiah

- There are four Board vacancies.
- Put another round of requests for this summer and asks board members to seek recruits on their day-to-day activities
- Neda Bolourian provided a quick update on board membership and will email upcoming events.

X. Public Affairs/Events Subcommittee updates– Neda

- Please attend June 26th Bark Social to domestic violence topics by MCFJC foundation.
- If you attend, please take pictures with the dogs at the event.
- Informed new members of Facebook page.
- Next in person meeting is at 1301 Piccard Drive at 6:30-7:45 PM
- Social event after meeting.
- Make sure that there is a way for anyone that can't attend meeting in person to still participate virtually.

XI. Announcements/Comments/New Business

- Dr. Rafiah Prince announces that she is moving to a different position outside of County Government.
- Dr. Rafiah Prince's last day is July 7, 2023.

Adjournment 8:30 PM

Next Meeting:

July 27, 2023, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM