



Commission on Children and Youth Meeting Summary-Approved December 12, 2018

Members Present: Kirsten Andersen, Shruti Bhatnagar, Stephanie Clark, Luciana Crotti-Espinoza, Itamar Fiorino, Lynne Harris, Victoria Koretsky, Renae McPherson, Talia Nesin, Jeanett Peralta, Chloe Perez, Eric Rossen, Pamela Taylor and Ashley Thommana

Members Absent: Cecily Adams, Leslie Copeland-Tune, Karen Duffy, Joseph Hooks, Jerome Jackson and Assya Pascalev

Guests Present: Beth Shuman (Office of Councilmember Alborno), Dr. Raymond Crowel (guest speaker for Mental Health Subcommittee)

Staff Present: Erin Stillwell (DHHS)

Due to Mental Health subcommittee guest speaker presentation, subcommittees met from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Kirsten Andersen, chair, called the full commission meeting to order at 8:12p.m.

Welcome and introduction of commissioners and guests

Chair's Update

- Kirsten has sent a request to the full CCY asking commissioners to join the executive committee; executive committee can act on behalf of the full commission in between meetings (not voting)
- Shruti shared that she had attended the farewell event for Uma Ahluwalia (former DHHS Director)

ACTION: Motion to approve the minutes from November 14, 2018 full commission meeting

Motion by: Shruti Bhatnagar

Seconded by: Jeanett Peralta

All in Favor

MLK Day of Service

- Youth commissioners met to plan service project; current plan is to have a service project where volunteers will assemble mental wellness bags
- Youth commissioners are locating resources to include in the bags (EveryMind, etc).

Youth Having a Voice Roundtable Planning

- Erin will be circulating an invitation for commissioners to share with their networks/communities to recruit MS/HS students to participate in the roundtable
- Commissioners can also provide Erin with names/email for youth and youth organization that should be invited to the roundtable; as well as guests to be invited to observe
- Commissioners are each asked to provide 1-2 \$10 gift cards that can be provided to the roundtable participants as a token of appreciation
- Subcommittees will provide ideas on possible questions for youth commissioners to prepare for the roundtable

Subcommittee Report-Outs:

- **School Safety:** reviewing the strategic plan for school safety; possibly recommend including time/location of where incidents occur; also reviewing what other individuals should be included on the interdisciplinary team
- **Mental Health and Wellness:** had Dr. Raymond Crowel, Chief of Behavioral Health and Crisis Services as the guest speaker; discussed trends in MC as far as suicide, mental health hospitalizations and substance abuse
- **Youth Advisory/Leadership:** Youth are working to create a survey/poll about Ride On Bus transportation and students accessibility; also working on planning MLK Day of Service service project

Other Commission Business:

- Shruti B. informed the CCY that on December 18th MCPS Superintendent, Dr. Jack Smith, would be hosting a public meeting to reveal the budget; discussed whether the CCY should write a letter or provide written testimony (to be discussed at the next meeting).

Announcements:

- Renae Mc P. announced that the MCPS Foundation is looking for donations of new/very gently used coats, socks and hats for students in MCPS schools
- Itamar F. announced that Blair's school newspaper (Silver Chips) would be at the farmer market (Itamar is a reporter for Silver Chips)
- Lynne H. announced that MCCPTA will be hosting a mental wellness forum on January 12, 2019

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.