



Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc.
Approved Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2023
Via Zoom

The Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc., convened a meeting of its Board of Directors on January 11, 2023 via Zoom.

There was a quorum present:

Public Members Present:

- Adriane Clutter, (Chair), *Montgomery County Recreation Department Representative*
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- Mark Hodge, *Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Office Representative*
- Deborah Lambert, *Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget Representative*
- Wanda Frink-Little, *Department of Juvenile Services Representative*
- Damon Monteleone, *MCPS, Office of Teaching, Learning, and Schools*
- Dira Treadance, *Department of Health and Human Services, Children, Youth and Families Representative*
- Lori-Christina Webb, *Board of Education Representative*
- Anita Vassallo, *Montgomery County Public Libraries Representative*
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Public Members Absent

- Valeria Carranza, *Montgomery County Council Representative*
- Lisa Merkin, *MC DHHS/CWS, Provider of Direct Social Services to Children, Youth and Families*
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Private Sector Members Present:

- Monya Bunch
- Sharon Cichy
- Hannah Davis Hastings (Vice Chair)
- Carolyn Erskine (Secretary)
- Jaslynn Laurence
- Nicholette Smith-Bligen
- Michelle Taylor (Treasurer)

- Carol Walsh

Private Sector Members Absent:

- Ebony Davis

Ex Officio Member:

- Elijah Wheeler, Executive Director

Collaboration Council Staff in Attendance:

Meredith Bowers, Alycia Chunev, Freddy Climaco, Peter Garza, Sandy Lombardo, Yaine Masresha, Jade-Ann Rennie, Thylan Singleton, Bezil Taylor

Guest:

- Justin Pollock, OrgForward (Strategic Planning consultant)

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Adriane Clutter, Board Chair.

Consent Agenda:

Adriane introduced the consent agenda which had two items: approval of the November Board minutes and approval of a six-month extension of the current WRAP provider's contract

Action: A motion was put forward by Carolyn Erskine and seconded by Anita Vassallo to approve the September Board meeting minutes. *(Unanimous)*

I. Update from the Strategic Planning Committee – Justin Pollock, Consultant

Justin Pollock presented a progress and process document that outlined the steps and activities that Board and Staff have participated in so far in the strategic planning process and shared a vision for next steps. The Board engaged in a discussion around the document and asked clarifying questions about where the process currently stands. Agreement that the Board Committees will meet with Justin to reflect upon the outlined framework and the impact it has on each respective committee's charge and workplan.

II. Update from the Finance Committee – Michelle Taylor, Treasurer

Michelle shared the news that Sandy Lombardo, Director of Finance has resigned her position and will leave the organization on January 20. Sandy leaves on good terms, has an incredible new opportunity, and was invited to share some comments about her tenure at the organization. Other finance staff have a interim plan to share duties until a new Finance Director is hired. The organization also has a relationship with Rubino and Associates (who assisted in an internal processes audit earlier in the year) and will seek interim contract support from them if necessary. The position has been posted and the organization is recruiting for the role.

The 990 has been submitted. Q2 Financials will be presented at the next Board meeting.

III. Update from Governance Committee – Carol Walsh

Carol provided an update on the work of the Ad Hoc committee comprised of Governance Committee members and others to hire an HR consultant to embark on an Executive Director compensation study. Two proposals were received and reviewed. Member of the committee interviewed both firms and hope to select a consultant and contract with the selected firm within the next two weeks. Carol shared a bit about the work of the Governance Committee and asked for volunteers to join the committee.

IV. Update from the Child Wellbeing Committee – Nicholette Smith Bligen, Committee Chair

Nicholette shared that the CWB Committee has not met in the last several months while the strategic plan process is playing out since the strategic direction of the organization and the mission of the CWB are so interdependent and true alignment will inform committee composition, membership, and recruitment. Nicholette noted the need to communicate to the committee to share where we are in the process and why the committee hasn't met lately. Nicholette shared the mission of the committee and asked for unassigned Board Members to consider joining.

V. Update from Executive Director - Elijah Wheeler

Elijah welcome Hannah back after maternity leave and welcomed her new daughter Stella to the world. Elijah also shared recent community canvassing work that members of the staff participated in partnership with Everyday Canvassing at the Enclave Apartment Building in White Oak. Staff shared some reflections on the experience and Board members noted opportunities for continued engagement with the Enclave residents.

Elijah also shared information about an upcoming conversation that the Collaboration Council is hosting at Main Street Connect on the subject of the intersection of antisemitism and anti-Black racism as part of its Community of Engagement series: Conversations at the Intersection. In addition, the next social gathering for participants in MoCo Boost (Guaranteed Income Pilot) will be hosted by the Collaboration Council on February 18 in Gaithersburg and will be art themed and family friendly.

Action: Carol moved to adjourn, Michelle seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 5:35.