



Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc.
APPROVED Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2023
Via Zoom

The Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc., convened a meeting of its Board of Directors on March 8, 2023 via Zoom.

There was a quorum present:

Public Members Present:

- Adriane Clutter, (Chair), *Montgomery County Recreation Department Representative*
- Mark Hodge, *Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Office Representative (arrived for second hour)*
- Deborah Lambert, *Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget Representative*
- Kristin Mink, *Montgomery County Council (arrived for second hour)*
- 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*

Public Members Absent

- Wanda Frink-Little, *Department of Juvenile Services Representative*
- Lisa Merkin, *MC DHHS/CWS, Provider of Direct Social Services to Children, Youth and Families*
- Damon Monteleone, *MCPS, Office of Teaching, Learning, and Schools*

Private Sector Members Present:

- Monya Bunch
- Sharon Cichy
- Hannah Davis (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, Peter Garza, Yaine Masresha, Zamzam Nur, Jade-Ann Rennie, Thylan Singleton,

Guest:

- Justin Pollock, OrgForward (Strategic Planning consultant)

Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Adriane Clutter, Board Chair.

Consent Agenda:

Adriane introduced the consent agenda which had two items: approval of the January Board minutes and ratification of the Executive Committee's approval of the amendments to the Employee Handbook.

Action: A motion was put forward by Anita Vassallo and seconded by Sharon Cichy to approve the January Board meeting minutes. *(Unanimous)*

I. Update from the Fiscal Committee – Michelle Taylor, Treasurer

Michelle asked the Board to postpone the vote to accept Quarter 2 financials until the Fiscal Committee had a chance to review them. The committee will meet in April and present them at the next full board meeting.

II. Update from the Governance Committee – Carol Walsh, Committee Chair

The Governance Committee met with the Strategic Planning consultant to explore how the committee could support the newly adopted Integrity Framework through its charge regarding membership on committees, community representation, bylaw revisions, and other matters.

The committee members, along with a few other volunteer board members, formed an Ad Hoc Executive Compensation Committee which hired, through an Open Solicitation, an HR Consultant (JLM HR Consulting) to do an analysis of EC Compensation policies and procedures and devise a set of recommendations to the Board. Members include: Carol Walsh, Monya Bunch, Mark Hodge, Lori Christina Webb, Wanda Frink-Little, Adriane Clutter, and Ebony Dabis. The Ad Hoc committee will meet with the Consultant in early April for a presentation of the Consultant's report and proposed compensation policy.

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

The CWB met with the Strategic Planning consultant to explore how the committee could support the newly adopted Integrity Framework in particular with regards to the structure membership of the group and articulation of the mission/charge of the group.

IV. Update from the Executive Director – Elijah Wheeler

Elijah took a moment to acknowledge International Women’s Day and expressed gratitude for the women on the Board of Directors and Staff of the organization. He reported that he and members of the staff will testify before the County Council’s HHS Committee in support of the organization’s redesignation as LMB on March 9, 2023. Elijah also noted a 1000% increase in private donations over the last year including new corporate partnerships with Patagonia, Bombas, and the NBPA (National Basketball Players Association).

V. Strategic Planning Discussion

The formal portion of the Board meeting was adjourned with Board Members who are public sector representatives remaining for a Strategic Planning discussion with Justin Pollock, OrgForward. As this remains an open meeting, all attendees were invited to attend. However, only the public sector members and the consultant remained, along with Ex Oficio member, Elijah Wheeler and staff Meredith Bowers.

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 public sector members engaged in a discussion about their role vis a vis their respective agencies as members of the board and the role of the Collaboration Council to align and/or question the respective agency strategic plans.