

**Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2021**

The Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, Inc., convened a meeting of its Board of Directors on January 13, 2021 via Microsoft Teams. There was a quorum present:

Public Members Present

JoAnn Barnes (Chair), *MC DHHS Children, Youth and Families Representative*
Valeria Carranza, *Montgomery County Council Representative*
Adriane Clutter, (Vice Chair), *Montgomery County Recreation Department Representative*
Deborah Lambert, *Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget Representative*
Anita Vassallo, *Montgomery County Public Libraries Representative*
Ruschelle Reuben, *Montgomery County Public Schools Representative*
Lori-Christina Webb, *Board of Education Representative*

Public Members Absent

Joanie Glick, *MC DHHS, Public Health Office Representative*
Delmonica Hawkins, *Department of Juvenile Services Representative*
Lisa Merkin, *MC DHHS/CWS, Provider of Direct Social Services to Children, Youth and Families*

Private Sector Members Present

Monya Bunch (2021)
Hannah Davis, (2021)
Carolyn Lowery (2021) Secretary
Nicholette Smith-Bligen (2022)
Michelle Taylor (2022) Treasurer
Gislene Tasayco (2020)
Carol Walsh (2020)
Adam Younoszai (2022)

Private Sector Members Absent

Ex Officio Member

Elijah Wheeler, Executive Director

Guests and Collaboration Council Staff in Attendance

Leteria Bailey, Alicia Church, Peter Garza, Charlotte Gironda, Judi Jackson, Elaine Johnson, Patti Lyman, Jade-Ann Rennie, Lise Robinson, Shane Tate

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. by A. Clutter, Board Vice Chair.

- I. **Consent Agenda - A. Clutter (*Material Distributed via Email*)**
A. Clutter presented the Consent Agenda that was comprised of the following:
1. Approval of November 10, 2020 Draft Board Meeting Minutes

Motion/Action: A motion was introduced by C. Walsh and seconded by N. Smith-Bligen to approve the Consent Agenda. (*Unanimous*)

- II. **Upcoming Legislative Issues - A. Clutter, J. Barnes (*Material Distributed via Email*)**
- A. Clutter noted that the Board needs a Chair of the Legislative Committee. Chairperson must be a board member.
 - All Board members need to be informed especially if the Collaboration Council is going to take a position on an issue.

- Board members identified two local legislative issues that could impact the Collaboration Council.
 - (1) Removal of School Resource Officers (SROs)
 - Discussed whether the Collaboration Council should take a stand to remove SROs from schools and provide alternatives such as holistic services, interventions, safety restorative justice programs, etc.
 - Funding could be used for community learning hubs to provide holistic and comprehensive services to youth - Collaborative Council could frame a narrative around public safety.
 - Public safety should include children's mental health - continue to look at understaffing in the public-school system; should counselors support social-emotional learning?
 - R. Reuben provided clarification on MCPS services for children's mental health:
 - ❖ Certified mental health positions at MCPS are the school psychologists;
 - ❖ current ratio is 1:1750 students.
 - ❖ Guidance counselors are focused on career counseling.
 - ❖ Misconception that school guidance counselors are providing direct mental health services.
 - ❖ MCPS is trying to change guidance counselors to get them to a place of more direct service.
 - Need to consider if the Collaboration Council took a position on SROs, what the impact would be on MCPS.
 - (2) Current Status of Positive Youth Development and Long-Term Effects of COVID
 - How do we address the overwhelmingly unstructured increase in out of school time?
 - How do we reengage and reconnect youth?
 - How do we address trauma and exacerbated existing conditions?
 - How do we address economic impact on youth?
 - How do we address the impact of COVID on the disproportionality that already exists with youth in school - addressing it through a diversity equity lens
 - Need to consider community supports such as a cooperative for alternative funding streams
- Next steps/Process
 - Release the Community Needs Assessment (CNA) and develop a position statement based on the findings of the CNA.
 - Present the position statement to the County Council and have them respond.
 - Executive Committee will take the lead on the strategic planning process. The Executive Committee will develop a model and processes to clearly articulate where we see the Collaboration Council going.
 - Full Board will be involved in creating a strategic plan.
 - Will hire a consultant to lead the strategic planning process.
 - Child Well Being Committee could recommend an issue where we take a position.
 - Considerations:
 - Funding (most of the Collaboration Council's funds are restricted); Priority; Capacity.
 - How do we engage others (corporations, the community, etc.) to be engaged in our work.

II. Report of the Fiscal Committee - M. Taylor

M. Taylor noted that the FY21 second quarter financials would be presented at the March Board meeting. M. Taylor provided the following summary of activities related to the fiscal health of the Collaboration Council:

- In June 2020 the Board approved a conservative budget for FY21 based on what was believed to be the impact of the pandemic and how the Collaboration Council would need to operate. The budget was approved at approximately \$5.1 million.
- Subsequently, additional funding has been received increasing the budget to \$5.8 million.
- The Collaboration Council has been awarded an additional \$400,000 from the Recreation Department which is not included in the \$5.8 million.
- The System of Care grant has been closed out and the County has paid in full. We are waiting to hear from SAMHSA when the final audit will take place.
- In terms of spending, all programs are on track with the exception of the Community of Practice which has only spent 10 percent of the budget at this point. Collaboration Council is working to reallocate those funds to other programs.
- The FY21 990 tax filing is being finalized for submission.

III. Report of the Governance Committee - C. Walsh

C. Walsh reviewed the process for amending the bylaws. These proposed changes were reviewed in detail at the November meeting. The process requires that the proposed changes be

presented again at today's meeting. If approved by the Board, the proposed changes are sent to the County Executive and Council President for action.

Motion/Action: A motion was introduced by J. Barnes and seconded by A. Vassallo to approve the proposed changes to the Bylaws. (14 Approve; 1 Abstention)

IV. Report of the child Well Being committee - H. Davis, N. Smith-Bligen (Material Distributed via Email)

N. Smith-Bligen noted that the Child Well Being Committee met November 19th with C. Jenkins who presented recommendations for refining the comprehensive Community Needs Assessment along with its recommendations. The CNA will be used as a basis for creating a strategic plan. A survey will be sent to stakeholders and partners to determine their perception of the Collaboration Council's work and where they see the gaps in services. Next meeting is scheduled for January 28th and after that meeting, the last Thursday of every other month at 3:00 p.m. The CNA will be released shortly. The Executive Statement will be signed by the Child Well Being Committee co-chairs.

Update from Executive Director - E. Wheeler

- E. Wheeler acknowledged the work of Collaboration Council staff during this pandemic.
- 2020 Annual Report. This year's annual report is virtual. The report as well as the monthly newsletter will be interactive. P. Garza presented the 2020 Annual Report in its new format.
- Maryland Association of Local Management Boards. Awaiting the release of the FY22 NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability). The NOFA is the process used to apply for funding from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services. Compass Government Relations group is the LMB contractor who monitors legislation that may impact LMBs.
- Youth Sports Initiative. Collaboration Council received COVID Relief Funds (CRF) from the Recreation Department to assist out of school time providers who had to stop their programs last year due to COVID. The Collaboration Council initially received 24 applications and was able to fund 14 applications. Subsequently, the funding deadline was to the end of 2021 enabling the Collaboration Council to re-evaluate the unfunded applications to see if they are now eligible. Overall, the Collaboration Council will disburse more than \$200,000 to youth sports organizations.
- Re-Release of Open Solicitation 2019-68 Identifying Trainers/Facilitators to Provide Live and Recorded Webinars to the Youth Development Community of Practice. Purpose is to identify additional webinars including practices for programming equity and inclusion for youth, supporting young people who have experienced homelessness/disconnection, strategies for building healthy relationships with youth program participants virtually, and strategies for coping with the pandemic and the disruption it has caused.
- Holiday Giving Event - Partnered with some community-based organizations including Betah Associates (M. Taylor), and the Office of Community Partnerships to provide toys, food and gifts for approximately 100 families. Plan is for this to be an annual event. P. Garza provided a video of the event.

V. Other Business

- J. Barnes suggested a survey be created and distributed after each board meeting to see if members feel engaged and that meetings are productive. J. Barnes will follow up with E. Wheeler and A. Clutter.

VI. Announcements/Adjournment

- January 28, 2021 - Montgomery Moving Forward will present their report and recommendations on the selection of a public/private early childhood entity in the County. J. Barnes will provide a link to the report for distribution to board members.
- January 19, 2021 is being designated a day of racial healing. The Kellogg Foundation is hosting a virtual event around racial healing. Invitation will be shared with board members.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Addenda to the Collaboration Council Meeting Minutes January 13, 2021

The following documents comprised the meeting packet for the January 13, 2021 meeting and were distributed by email prior to the meeting.

Document

Final Agenda

Consent Agenda

1. Approval November 10, 2020 Draft Meeting Minutes

Current Status of Positive Youth Development in Montgomery County and Long Term Effects of COVID-19

November 19, 2020 Report of the child Well Being Committee