

Queen Anne's County
Community Partnerships for Children and Families (LMB)
Minutes
June 17, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Those present for the Community Partnerships for Children and Families Board meeting

Members Present:

Karla Altamirano, Community Member
Joan Brooks, QAC Recreation
Susan Coppage, Department of Social Services
Kathryn Dilley, Mid Shore Behavioral Health
Matt Evans, Board of Education
Bobbi Graef, QAC Department of Health
Jason Mullen, Chesapeake College
Maynard Nash, County Ride

Vince Radosta, Community Member
Laura Roth, Community Member
Lauren Searce, Department of Juvenile Services
Jone Taylor, Children's Council
Colleen Thomas, Community Member
Mary Ann Thompson, Community Member
Jamie Williams, Community Member

Administrative Staff:

Michael Clark, Director
Shelby Clark, Resource Development Specialist
Lisa Michaels, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Stansbury, Operation Specialist and Office Coordinator II

Member Regrets:

Reverend Elmer Davis, Community Member
Alana Ellis, Student Member (QACHS)
Margie Houck, County Commissioners
Michelle Johnson, Community Member
Angie Marsh, Community Member
Lt. Mark Meil, QAC Sheriff's Office
Carrie O'Connor, Community Member

Mary Walker, Community Member

I. Welcome:

Mary Ann Thompson called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

II. LMB Updates & Reports:

a. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee met virtually on June 9, 2020. The Executive Committee reviewed and approved June's agenda. No decisions need ratification. The June 9th meeting was Jamie Williams last Executive Committee meeting. A special thank you to Jamie Williams for her service on the Executive Committee and as a board member. The Executive Committee will meet at least

once or twice during the summer months. The Executive Committee will have one vacancy for FY21.

b. Secretary

Jamie Williams, Vice President and Secretary, presented the meeting minutes from May 2020 for approval.

****Action:**

Vince Radosta moved to approve the May 20, 2020 minutes as written. Colleen Thomas provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

c. Treasurer

Kathryn Dilley, Board Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report for May 2020.

****Action:**

Vince Radosta made a motion to accept the May 2020 Treasurer's Report as written. Jamie Williams provided a second. All present voted in favor to accept the May 2020 Treasurer's Report with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

d. Director's Report

• **Federal Cares Grant**

Still waiting to hear regarding the Federal CARES Act if some of our requests were approved, specifically the request for the Back Pack for School committee funding and other moneys for other food pantry programs.

• **Community Partnership Agreement 2021**

We have received final word of approval from the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) in regards to our CPA for fiscal year 2021. There were extremely few information requests from the GOC. An official letter has been received. Once the GOC has made their announcement, we will be able to make ours. We already started making plans with the Strategic Planning Committee regarding the details on how to oversee that grant and award. A special thanks to Shelby Clark, Jennifer Stansbury and the Strategic Planning Committee for their hard work.

• **Programs FY 2020**

Jennifer Stansbury, Shelby Clark and the Strategic Planning Committee did a wonderful job making sure we spent down our budget appropriately and that we were able to continue to provide service despite COVID.

• **End of the Fiscal Year – What's Next?**

Is there anything regarding children and families in Queen Anne's that the Board would like to see discussed beyond what we are doing currently or things you would like to know more about or is there a presentation you would like to hear a presentation from somebody or have further discussion about particular item that has seemed to arisen. We can work on getting some of that to you moving forward in FY21. Some ideas discussed:

- Affordable housing and entities that provide it.
- MidShore Child Advocacy Center has a medical component housed at Easton Hospital and now will need a new space. Could possibly need

financial assistance if given the possibility to remain at Easton Hospital in another space. This is an essential component to the MidShore Child Advocacy Center. Possibly lose the space in October.

- Waivers for evictions or electric turn-off restrictions will be lifted on June 30th. What funds are available for those who will be in need in July?
 - Housing and Community Services potentially will have programs available for support for emergency assistance after waivers are lifted. Also, the Housing and Community Services has applied for Emergency CBDG grant for rental assistance.
 - Set up meeting with DSS, Haven Ministries, Department of Housing and Community Services and Jeanine Beasley from MidShore Behavioral Health.
 - Haven Ministries is anticipating requests once waivers are lifted.
 - Haven Ministries resource center is moving to Queenstown and the new space will also have a food pantry.
- Keep an eye on the response rates in our community for the Census. Keep pushing out the word.

e. Committee Updates

- **Equity Committee – Matt Evans**

- The QAC Equity Committee last met in February 2020 due to COVID.
- In light of events involving the death of unarmed African Americans, it is time to meet again.
- The next meeting is scheduled for July 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
- An email was sent out regarding the meeting and has received a great response.
- The QAC Equity Committee has subcommittees already in place: Law Enforcement subcommittee, Housing Subcommittee, Faith Based Subcommittee, Transportation Subcommittee, Education Subcommittee, and Youth Activities Subcommittee. These subcommittees are ready to be reactivated.
- Tiger Team Number 4 Focus Group (social and emotional support), will also address moving forward.
- Dr. Kane sent a letter out to the parents and students.

- **Backpack Committee – Vince Radosta (See attached description).**

- The Backpack Committee to date has handed out approximately 9,000 meals to local children at all of the BOE 13 sites.
- June 12th was last distribution of food. The next food distribution will take place June 23-August 13th.
- The Back Pack Program will provide meals for seven weeks.
- The program will also provide 450 weekend meals during the months of July and August for children in the migrant program.
- The committee plans to meet with Dr. Kane and other food banks to discuss food distribution over the summer.
- The LMB has requested funding through the CARES grant in the amount of \$140,000.
- Mid-Shore Community Foundation has awarded \$10,000 to the Back Pack for Food Program.

- The Program has received over \$14,000 in individual donations so far.
 - QAC Commissioners approved \$37,000 for next school year.
 - Haven Ministries is opening food banks in Queenstown and currently seeking a site in Sudlersville.
- **Membership Committee – Mary Ann Thompson and Jamie Williams**
 - The new terms begin July 1, 2020.
 - The LMB will need four additional members. To date, the LMB has received two letters of interest, one is interested in serving on the Equity Committee. This applicant was referred by Lee Franklin. There are three other potential candidates but waiting on their letters of interests.
 - Two board members will need to renew their memberships.

**** Action:**

Jamie Williams moved to submit the following candidates to the Queen Anne’s County Commissioners for re-appointment to the Community Partnerships for Children and Families Board of Directors for a second three-year term beginning July 1, 2020, ending June 30, 2023

- Laura Roth – Community Member
- Mary Anne Thompson – Community Member

Vince Radosta provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

Four members will not be returning: Angie Marsh, Mary Walker, Carrie O’Connor and Jamie Williams.

Mary Walker has been an inspiration and she is doing great things in our community.

**** Action:**

Jamie Williams moved to appoint the following people to the positions as stated below for one year terms effective July 1, 2020

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| President | Mary Anne Thompson |
| Vice President & Secretary | To Be Determined |
| Treasurer | Katie Dilley |

Vince Radosta provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

**** Action**

Vince Radosta moved that the Local Management Board empowers the Membership Committee to develop a slate of candidates for membership on the Local Management Board and empower the Executive Committee to deny or approve those candidates and then submit the names of the approved candidates on to the County Commission for appointment to the Local Management Board effective July 1, 2020.

Joan Brooks provided a second. All present voted in favor with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

Vince Radosta stated the departing members can still be on the committees.

- **Out of School Time Committee – Vince Radosta**
 - \$200,000 has been awarded for out of school time. That funding is divided so that Partnering for Youth (PFY) receives \$100,000 and the LMB receives \$100,000.
 - The LMB will revise the Request for Proposal (RFP) to include COVID requirements.
 - Those completing the RFP should not have duplicate funds from other grants. Also, it should be mentioned how previous funds were spent in the past, population served, and the outcomes.
 - The RFP will be sent out on 6/26.
 - PFY has a tentative plan for possible virtual school program if approved with accordance with MD BOE COVID guidelines.
 - Currently AlphaBEST is awaiting on Maryland BOE COVID procedures.
 - The Board of Education is considering a multitude of variance of procedures.
 - Regional meetings will be held next week with the Maryland Out of School Time Committee and Maryland Department of Education as far as COVID guidelines. Hopefully we will find out soon how the fall school program will work.
 - The Department of Recreation was unable to spend funds awarded to them in FY20. Those funds will be returned to the QAC Commissioners.
 - AlphaBEST and PFY were able to spend down their entire FY20 budget.
 - A tentative meeting has been set up to review and approve RFPs on August 4th.
 - Matt Evans explained that the BOE has six focus groups and those groups will be submitting their recommendations for reopening to Dr. Kane by next week. The groups' recommendations will then go before the Board of Education followed by a period for feedback. Looking at mid-July regarding a plan for possible reopening of school in the fall.

- **Strategic Planning Committee – Mike Clark**

The Strategic Planning Committee met earlier last week and reviewed the LMB's strategies, reviewed the comments made by the Board and set up a plan through the summer. If anyone would like to be on the Strategic Planning Committee, please let us know. No new updates.

III. Update from Department of Social Services – Susan Coppage

- Doors are still locked.

- DSS will begin to take appointments on Monday.
- Most interviews are on Family Investment department.
- Due to COVID, many programs have waived documentation and appointment requirements. Those waived requirements will end on August 1, 2020.
- DSS Services staff are coming into the office for assessments.
- Foster Care children have had visits through video conferencing. Visits are going to start soon at outside locations.
- Child Protective Services and Adult Services have been working through the COVID pandemic.
- Adult Services in-home aids are still providing services.
- Food Stamp applications and TCA is done completely online.
- State has decided to do state-wide processing instead, not processed locally anymore. Normally, the QAC DSS was only responsible for those applying our county. Now, QAC DSS is doing state-wide processing and the applications can be coming from anywhere. On a quota basis. Very challenging to switch in the midst of the health pandemic.
- DSS is beginning to do redeterminations for food stamps for our county.
- There will be increases in the amount of food stamps.
- In April or May all households received the maximum allotment for their home no matter their income.
- Pandemic EBT – any child receiving free or reduced lunch or if receiving food stamps will receive \$5.50 a day for April, May, June and up until school begins.
- Working with schools to make sure everyone receives the EBT card.
- Private schools might be delayed in getting these cards.
- EBT card can now be used for online shopping limited to Amazon, Shoprite and a few Walmarts.
- Child Support – not receiving child support payments can only be received by mailing into the DSS office or online payment.
- Only emergency hearings are being heard in Court.
- Child support court hearings will resume tomorrow.

IV. Recognizing Department Board Members – Mike Clark

Recognition was given for the departing board members: Angie Marsh, Carrie O'Connor, Mary Walker and Jamie Williams.

V. Announcements & Adjourn

Announcements can be found in the Board packets.