

Queen Anne's County
Community Partnerships for Children and Families (LMB)
Minutes
March 17, 2021
Virtual Meeting

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

Members Present:

Joan Brooks, QAC Recreation
Susan Coppage, Department of Social Services
Jessica Denny, Community Member
Kathryn Dilley, Mid Shore Behavioral Health
Matt Evans, Board of Education
Scott Evans, Community Member
Bobbi Graef, QAC Department of Health
Stephanie Hines, Community Member
Michelle Johnson, Community Member

Jason Mullen, Chesapeake College
Maynard Nash, County Ride
Vince Radosta, Community Member
Lauren Searce, Department of Juvenile Services
Jone Taylor, Children's Council
Colleen Thomas, Community Member
Mary Ann Thompson, Community Member
Lauren Kay Weber, Community Member

Administrative Staff:

Michael Clark, Director
Lisa Michaels, Administrative Assistant
Rebecca Rombro, Resource Development Specialist

Member Regrets:

Karla Altamirano, Community Member
Reverend Elmer Davis, Community Member
Alana Ellis, Student Member (QACHS)
Margie Houck, County Commissioners

Sgt. John Meyers, QAC Sheriff's Department
Laura Roth, Community Member

Guests:

Elizabeth Miller & Lori Yarborough, Judy Center Partnership
Michelle McNeil, Early Learning QACPS
Shirlee Chase, Head Start Grasonville

- 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 last Monday. We are having a retreat virtually, May 19, 2021 from 11:30-1:00 p.m. in place of our regularly scheduled meeting. Our facilitator will be Rob Levitt.

Our Board Retreat for FY22 is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2021 at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club.

The Executive Committee approved today's agenda and no official decisions were made that need to be ratified by the Board.

b. Secretary

Vince Radosta, Vice President and Secretary presented the meeting minutes from February 2021 for approval.

****Action:**

Lauren Kay Weber moved to approve the February 17, 2021 minutes as written. Jessica Denny 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 February 2021 and the Mid-Year Expenditure Report. Nichole Hepfer, QAC Finance Department, presented the CAFR Report to the Executive Committee and reviewed her finance document for FY22. The financials for LMB is captured on pages 168-175.

****Action:**

Vince Radosta made a motion to accept the February 2021 Treasurer's Report as written and the Mid-Year Expenditure Report. Colleen Thomas provided a second. All present voted in favor to accept the February 2021 Treasurer's Report and Mid-Year Expenditure Report with no abstentions and the motion was carried.

d. Director's Report

- The Director's Report is included with the board packet.
- The Strategic Planning Committee and staff continue working on the CPA agreement.
- The Board will have a "mini" retreat May 19th and full day retreat for FY22 on November 18th.
- The Maryland Association of Local Management Boards are working with our legislature. The Association has a government liaison working for LMBs to put back funding that was cut from last year's budget.
- Our liaison noticed extra money put back but did not make it to our category. We are looking into that.
- LMB is been playing a big part in responding and answering calls at the Covid Call Center.
- Jennifer has been making contracts and monitoring our programs to ensure they are following the terms of the agreement.

- There is going to be a housing virtual event for information, thoughts and inputs for housing in Queen Anne's County. This is part of QAC Planning & Zoning planning process.
- The QAC Local Care Team is looking into Queen Anne's County starting a Truancy Reduction Program. More information will be provided as we learn more.

e. Committee Updates:

Membership Committee – Mary Ann Thompson

- Please consider volunteering for the Membership Committee.
- Only one member's term will be expiring after this fiscal year and the committee is looking into adding another student member.
- Membership Committee will be sending out a board interest form asking if you plan to be a board member in FY22.
- Let Mary Ann, Mike or Lisa know if you are interested in being on the Membership Committee.

Back Pack Committee – Vince Radosta:

- The committee has provided food for 700 kids as of last week. The committee is also providing weekend food.
- The committee's food distribution numbers have been going up – over 600 last month, now over 700.
- The distribution schedule will be changing with students going back to school full days.
- The Maryland Food Bank has been giving us food at no charge for the last couple of months.
- The committee has \$30,000 from the County Commissioners and \$18,000 in donation money. The committee believes it will only be able to spend ½ of the County Commissioner's money. Looking to see if the balance can be moved into a different account or if we need to return it.
- Lee Franklin is moving to North Carolina in June. That will affect several other committees.
- The Back Pack Committee requires a Board member sit on the committee. Susan Coppage volunteered to chair the Back Pack Committee.
- The next Back Pack Committee meeting will be in April.

Out of School Time – Vince Radosta:

- The schools' schedules are constantly changing.
- The Edge is back doing after school visits and have spent down their money.
- QAC Parks & Recreation have spent down all their money and they have several outdoor spring programs that are at full capacity.
- Alphabest has 40 registered students for before or after school. They are offering scholarships to students.
- Partnering for Youth (PFY) continues with remote programs. PFY's schedule will depend upon school system.

Safety Net Committee- Matt Evans:

- Universal screeners have been rolled out.
- Received good responses and only a small percentage of parents/students need someone to reach out to them and their family.
- A Wellness FB page has been developed by QACPS. Please “like” and “share.”
- Handle with Care continues to get notifications.
- QACPS is looking to have a virtual challenge day on June 2, and a tobacco prevention on that same day for 7th and 8th graders.

QAC Equity Committee- Matt Evans:

- Equity is meeting this afternoon at 4:00.
- The subcommittees have been very active. The subcommittees are education, transportation, law enforcement, and housing.
- The committee is planning another virtual panel event. The target of this event will be “How to Navigate the Schools in the United States.”

Strategic Planning Committee- Mike Clark:

- In addition to working on the CPA, the Strategic Planning Committee is working on turn the curve reports for the first five priority objects. Next the committee will be working on strategies.
- The CPA is due April 9th. At this point we have received feedback from each of the program providers. Budgets have been turned into Jennifer.
- We are sending out requests for letters of support and plan to send out draft program narratives for review. Thank you to the proof readers.

Character Counts – Susan Coppage:

- The Jackie Carter Teen of Character Award application and information will be available soon.

QAC Local Care Team – Transportation Voucher Program – Lisa Michaels:

- The Transportation Voucher Program has increased its marketing campaign and is focusing on north County.
- The balance is \$7,467.18 to be spent down by June 30, 2021.

III. Presentation from “Early Childhood Queen Anne’s County”

1. **Judy Center Partnership - Elizabeth Miller & Lori Yarborough, Directors** – See attached.
2. **Family Support of Queen Anne’s County** –Jennifer Crossley, Director
 - Referral forms are online.
 - Check out our Facebook page where there are a lot of great pictures.

- We currently have a great partnership with Chesapeake College and County Ride.
 - Our programs have been very busy with virtual programs.
 - Serve all QAC families with children under the age of 4.
3. **Early Learning in Queen Anne's County** – Michelle McNeil, Supervisor of Early Learning QACPS
- Early learning starts Pre-K. Kindergarten registration is in April.
 - Continue to work on looking at Ready to Read Act which is part of kindergarten curriculum to determine if there are any issues.
 - Hired a bi-lingual coordinator.
4. **Head Start Grasonville** - Shirlee Chase, Site Coordinator
- The program is federally funded for 3-5-year olds – no cost to families.
 - Eligibility is based on age and income, in addition, the child must have a physical exam, blood lead test.
 - The program provides transportation to and from the center.
 - Hours of operation are 8:30-3:00 p.m.
 - Children are engaged in educational activities. Choices in the classrooms are blocks, science, music and computer center.
 - Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided and a rest time.
 - Sheets and blankets are provided by the parents and extra clothes in case of accident.
 - Parents are very involved and participate in home learning activities, like homework.
 - Parents may donate supplies to the center.
 - In March 2020, Head Start had to adjust due to Covid. Children were provided with iPads and internet access for virtual learning. Supplies were sent home, in addition to meals.
 - March 1, 2021, able to reopen the centers with in-person learning and continue to assist families with low income.

IV. **Agency Overview: Department of Juvenile Services in Queen Anne's County - Lauren Scarce – Supervisor Queen Anne's Office of Dept. of Juvenile Services**

- Now serve Kent County.
- QAC received 99 referrals in FY20 which is down from previous year.
- Hoping the drop stays that way.
- Out of 99 referrals, only 20 were referred to the court system.
- Many changes on how a child is processed when encountering DJS – Intake Unit and Probation and After Care.
- Our intake until now is the front end. Any time a child encounters a police officer, or a parent refers, the intake unit takes over and a meeting is held with that family. The intake unit can decide on what is going to happen.
- The risk assessment tool has been updated.
- The intake unit can resolve the case. Families have the ability handle things on their own and punishment from parent is best.

- Also, DJS can offer services and make referrals to families if they feel that's appropriate.
- A lot referrals for the Local Care Team comes out of the Department of Juvenile Services.
- Formalize the pre-court supervision a little more than in the past.
- Intake workers are taking victim awareness classes with some of the kids.
- Court – When a youth is either extremely violent or victims do not agree to informal supervision, then the youth goes to court. This process moves faster than the adult world.
 - First – initial appearance with or without attorney. In person.
 - Second – adjudication – guilt or innocence phase.
 - Third – Hearing – disposition (sentencing). Currently juveniles are not sentenced to a specific amount of time. Typically, is probation with specific terms. Most of the time medical health treatment, medication, substance abuse treatment or evaluation and sometimes community service. It is on a case by case basis.
- Highest level – commitment and removal from the home. That is done if the child may need a specific treatment that is not offered in our community or if the child is not being compliant with requirements of DJS. Once the child comes home from commitment, they are placed on after-care, transitioning back into the community and attending services.
- Many reentry resources for after-care.
- When on probation Four levels: low, moderate, high, extensive.
- Juvenile Justice Reform Act is going through the legislature now and has passed the house and basically putting term limits on what crimes go to Court and which ones do not. There could be a major change coming in the next year.

Adjournment and Announcements:

Next LMB meeting is April 21, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.

Board Retreat – 11:30 to 1 p.m. on May 19, 2021 – virtual.

A motion was made by Vince Radosta to end the meeting. All present voted in favor and the meeting was ended.