



SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Department of Human Services
 Friday, June 12, 2020
 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Notes

SSAB Board Members		Human Services Staff Present		Public
Name	Present	Name	Present	
Norma Brumage	X	Aileen Smith	X	
Andy Richmond	X	Elizabeth Batista-Boone	X	
Susan Campbell	X	Deidria Bolden	X	
Robin Foreman-Wheeler	X	Sharon Jones		
Angela Kellam	X	Aaron Knight		
Jalana McCasland	X	Fay Ward	X	
Martha McClees	X	Theresa Jordan	X	
Donna Morris	X	Al Steward		
Lucynthia Rawls	X	Becky China		
Michael Berlucchi	X			

Call to Order:

The Social Services Advisory Board was called to order by the Board Chair, Mr. Andrew Richmond, at 9:02 a.m.

Public Comment:

- None

Approval of Board Minutes:

- A motion was made by Angela Kellam and seconded by Lucynthia Rawls to approve the February 2020 minutes; the vote carried the motion forward for approval. Minutes approved and docked.

Financial Reports: The request was made to move the financial report to the start of the meeting.

- Social Services – Fay Ward, Business Manager (handouts)
- CSA Administration – Theresa Jordan, Accountant IV (handouts)

Old Business:

- None

Matters of the Chair

- None

Matters of the Director/Deputy Director/Staff – Aileen L. Smith

- Director's Updates

Reviewed the response and current operating conditions due to COVID-19. Noted that all divisions are utilizing teleworking/telehealth except for the Juvenile Detention Center and BHDS 24/7 programs. There is no date yet for the divisions to reopen to the public. Noted that teleworking / telehealth will continue to be used following the opening.

There was a question on the operations for Adult Protective Services and Child Protective Services: When a visit must be made the staff use a clean car and the car is sanitized upon return. PPE is worn at all times. Children have continued to be placed in Foster Care as needed. Also the department has at its disposal a town house that is designed to house children if health observation is needed.

Presentation

- SNAP Update – *Deidria Bolden, Administrator*

Power Point provided. Of note is the spike in SNAP applications due to COVID-19. Staff have responded well to the demand and the state has provided relief in the form of relaxed procedures and reviews.

There was a question from the floor regarding the state issuance of monies to address evictions and homelessness. The Department of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation has oversight for these monies. Elizabeth Boone noted that the first round of distribution closed quickly as the department was overloaded. The next opening will occur soon, and a press release is coming.

Regarding Child Care, the question was asked if the Department can assist families. The department only works with licensed facilities, we cannot assist them with opening and meeting CDC guidelines. We can only assist families who meet the income or need threshold.

New Business:

- Farewell to Ms. Martha McClees following many years of service both to this board and the Community Services Board.

Ms. McClees had a final question. She met with Acting Chief Zucaro and spoke with him about the services that the Department of Human Services provides/can provide. She asked if greater publicity could help. Aileen shared that on the BHDS side there is a Crisis Intervention Team which works very closely with the police both in providing direct support and training to officers. This service was mentioned in the

letter from City Council. Ms. McClees asked if we had data we could share. This data will be shared with the board.

Adjournment:

- Meeting adjourned 10:00 am

Due to the July 4 holiday, the next meeting will be on July 12, 2020. This meeting will be virtual.