



MEETING MINUTES

**ABSENT FROM MEETING*

June 16, 2020

6:00 P.M.

Powell's Creek Conference Rooms, McCoart Building

Chair Barg opened the meeting at 6:04 PM. The entire board was in attendance. Laurie Wilson and Andréa Wilson were welcomed to their first meeting of the DSS Advisory Board.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from February 18, 2020 were approved [JM, CT; unanimous].

Public Comment

None.

Action Items

- Disaster Protocol for meetings.
The Director outlined the necessity for the Advisory Board to have a policy that outlines what the Board should do about their meetings if an emergency is declared and not all members can attend in person. The Director suggested that as long as five members are physically present, which is the required number needed to be considered a quorum for our Board according to VDSS regulations, in a declared emergency situation, up to three members could participate remotely and have full voting rights using internet meeting software, such as Skype or WebEx, or by conference call. The Board agreed and asked that the policy be added to the Board's Charter.
MOTION made to accept this policy as explained above [SC, JM; unanimous].
- **MOTION** was made to ratify Clarice Torian's appointment to the CAC Working Committee. [IO, SC; unanimous].

Chairman's Time

The Board was shown the 15-minute required new Local Board Member Training film from the Virginia Learning Center titled VDSS OD1000: Introduction to Virginia Social Services System.

Director's Time

- Covid-19 Recovery
The County will be reopening most of its buildings to the public starting on June 26. DSS has kept only essential workers at job sites and has been running smoothly and efficiently via telework during the pandemic crisis. Teleworking will continue for the foreseeable future.

- Homeless Update

DSS was able to increase the number of available beds to accommodate the homeless during the pandemic. The 24/7 shelter, as well as the Drop-In Center have been operating out of the Dale City Rec Center. Both shelters will be moving back to the Ferlazzo Gym on June 22 and the Ferlazzo Building will remain closed to the public until further notice. The EconoLodge in Dumfries continues to house Homeless individuals with underlying conditions and with those who have been exposed to Covid. DSS has received 'Cares Act' money for erecting two *Homeless Navigation Centers*; one in east Prince William and one in the western part of the County. These buildings will be 'sprung structures' that can be assembled in place fairly quickly. Both buildings must be in place before December 31 as part of the 'Cares Act' agreement. Once the Homeless Navigation Center is completed in eastern Prince William, the 24/7 shelter and the Drop-in Center will permanently move their operations there and the Ferlazzo Building will then reopen to the public.

Tanya Golden is our newest manager at the Hilda Barg Shelter.

- DSS Ongoing Racial Inequity Discussion

The DSS Leadership Team is having an ongoing discussion to address inequities among staff.

Courtney Tierney will be sending out 'talking points' to members recapping this board meeting which can be used by members when they meet with their district Supervisor's.

Board Members' Time

New and 'old' members were welcomed back to our first meeting since February.

Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:37 PM. [JDM, CT; unanimous].

APPROVED:


Clerk to Board