

Frederick County Social Services Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Details

- February 26, 2024
- Department of Social Services, 1888 N. Market St., Frederick, MD 21703

I. Call to Order

- Ed Hinde called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

II. Attendance

Board Members

- ☒ Ed Hinde, Chair
- ☒ Chris Kimberly, Vice Chair
- ☐ Lysmariam Valladares-Pena, Treasurer
- ☒ Casey Day, Secretary
- ☐ Cheryl Back
- ☒ Elizabeth Etouke
- ☒ Dave Drezner
- ☒ Natalie Gipson
- ☒ Patrick Hammett
- ☒ Rev. Chance Martinez
- ☒ Jenifer Zimmer

Others In Attendance

- ☒ Debbie Marini, FC DSS Director
- ☒ Renee Knapp, Council Liaison
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

III. Approval of the Agenda

- The draft agenda was presented by Ed Hinde.
- Chris Kimberly made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Rev. Chance Martinez seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Record of Vote:

Name	Yea	Nay	Name	Yea	Nay
Cheryl Back	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ed Hinde	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casey Day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Kimberly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dave Drezner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rev. Chance Martinez-Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth Etouke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lysmariam Valladares-Pena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natalie Gipson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Zimmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patrick Hammett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

IV. Approval of the Minutes

- Draft minutes of the previous meeting were shared by the secretary with the membership prior to the meeting.

- Patrick Hammett shared two small corrections to the minutes. These were accepted.
- The secretary made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Natalie Gipson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Record of Vote:

Name	Yea	Nay	Name	Yea	Nay
Cheryl Back	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ed Hinde	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casey Day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Kimberly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dave Drezner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rev. Chance Martinez-Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth Etouke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lysmariam Valladares-Pena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natalie Gipson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Zimmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patrick Hammett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

V. Presentation- Center for Adoption Support & Education

- The organization shared their work in the DMV area, including a site in Frederick. They work with caregivers, adoptive and foster parents, children, and providers throughout all stages of the adoptive process to provide direct support, case management, support, training, and therapy to help increase adoption competency and success in the adoption process. They work with families to access services of the Maryland Post-Adoption grant for 17 sessions of therapy. Additionally, they partner with Social Services and collaborate with the school systems.

VI. Reports

• **Director's Report**

- Ms. Marini shared the Q2 Dashboard of Performance, Quality, and Improvement Data Indicators. A summary is coming for the Board. The Legislative aspect of DHS is navigating the Maryland Legislative Session. There are two favorable bills in the process. She will share a summary with the Board. Debbie shared the progress of the ENOUGH process. They are in the planning stage and hearing from the community to drive the planning. March is Social Work Month. Ms. Marini shared that they are currently reviewing cases of children in care for extended periods of time with the intent of working towards permanency. The question was raised about concerns with budget shortfalls and cuts. Ms. Marini shared that at this time, they are expecting status quo funding.

• **Recruitment**

- The team met and discussed the strategy going forward. They developed a boilerplate letter to send out to those active in work with at risk populations. Several letters have been sent out and the committee will be working to create a list of others to send.

• **Fundraising & Support**

- Ed Hinde shared that the committee met with Donna Heller to coordinate calendars and activities.

- Several grant applications have been submitted to support respite care and a few grants are coming up for application.
- MASSB is opening their grant application again and the application will be in by the end of next week.
- **Public Policy and Advocacy**
 - Casey Day shared that the Public Policy and Advocacy Committee met on January 28 and drafted the letter for request of funding for respite care to the County Executive and the County Council. to discuss the workshop planned for December 5. This workshop is designed to heighten awareness of the extent of the concerns and limited resources available for respite care, focus on the benefits of maintaining a strong respite program in the county, as well as work with advocates and subject matter experts to formulate potential solutions. It is hoped that this will be the first of a series of workshops addressing areas needing advocacy.

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

VI. Comments and Announcements:

- The MASBB Winter Meeting is being held March 1 from 9 am - 12 pm in Columbia. Ed Hinde and Casey Day are presenting at the meeting. All are encouraged to attend. There is a virtual option as well.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 26 at the Department of Social Services building located at 1888 N. Market Street, Frederick.

VII. Public Comment

- No members of the public were in attendance.

VIII. Adjournment

- Ed Hinde made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Drezner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Record of Vote:

Name	Yea	Nay	Name	Yea	Nay
Cheryl Back	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ed Hinde	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Casey Day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Kimberly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dave Drezner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rev. Chance Martinez-Colon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth Etouke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lysmariam Valladares-Pena	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Natalie Gipson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jennifer Zimmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Patrick Hammett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 pm.