

**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION**  
**MEETING NOTES – NOVEMBER 10, 2021**  
**VIRTUAL**

**ATTENDANCE**

Ingrid Bynum	Angela Green	Christina Sherlock
Julie Crawford	Amanda Hazelwood	Catherine Clinger
Jessy Cuddy	J. Glenn Hopkins	
Rose Dawson	Kurt Huffman	
Laura Durham	Mike Mackey	
Kate Garvey	Maile Organek	

**Excused Absent**

Councilman Canek Aguirre	Councilwoman Amy Jackson
Dana Chambers	Dianara Saget
Jacinta Greene	Heather Thornton
Claudette Haynes	

**Unexcused Absent**

Nicola Harris  
Annabelle O’Keefe  
Justin Williams

**Staff**

Stacey Hardy-Chandler  
Chelsea Eickert  
Shawn Brown  
Noraine Buttar

**Guests**

Allen Lomax  
Shelsy Delgado  
Avanda Williams White

**WELCOME**

The Children, Youth, and Families Collaborative Commission (CYFCC) Chair, Amanda Hazelwood welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Commissioners to share “What should we know?” The following announcements were shared: An Alexandria Mentoring Partnership Coordinator has been hired and will start December 1<sup>st</sup>. The Holiday Sharing Program is now live on the City’s website. The City is about to start the hiring process for a new City Manager. During the most recent DCHS Boards and Commissions Chair Quarterly Meeting, the Chairs were made aware of two things: 1. A Progress Report of all the ARPA Funded projects includes a Gantt Chart that tracks the implementation progress of each initiative, and 2. The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) is about to open up another round of grant making through the Fund for Human Services and asks that the Boards and Commissions provide support in implementing that process.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

The Chair opened the up the floor for public comment and invited members of the public to make any comments.

## **REVIEW AND APPROVE OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES**

The Commission reviewed, modified, and approved the meeting minutes from October.

## **OLD BUSINESS – LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET PRIORITIES**

Commissioners received a letter in their inbox last week. The letter outlined the CYFCC's legislative and budget priorities and was shared with the City Council in time for their upcoming retreat.

## **OLD BUSINESS – MEMBERSHIP AND OUTREACH**

Commissions discussed how to recruit and maintain a diverse membership. Together they identified the following perspectives that are either missing or the Commission needs more of: youth and young adults, more expertise of special needs, Central Americans, Spanish speaking and Amharic speaking community members, West End residents, youth and families with lived experience and systems-involved youth, parents of systems-involved youth, and members of the foster community. It was shared that Parent Liaisons at ACPS who have strong relationships with these parents could help with outreach.

The various "hubs" where members from these communities can be engaged were also identified. Kate Garvey volunteered to reach out to Tenants and Workers United, Laura Durham and Kurt Huffman volunteered to reach out to Casa Chirilagua, Amanda Hazelwood will do outreach to African Communities Together, Mike Mackey will connect with a staff member from the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities who can do outreach to young people, Mike Mackey and Kate Garvey will do outreach to systems-involved youth, and Christina Sherlock will connect with a staff member from DCHS. Catherine Clinger will reach out to SEAC and VOICE (faith-based community).

The Commission will produce a "one-pager" for recruitment purposes that will include information such as: the Commission's purpose and role, what the vision is, why help is needed, specific acts they would be involved with, the time commitment, timing of the meetings, the application process and what people need to do to have a competitive application, the application deadline, an invitation to City Council meeting, the top three latest accomplishments, and assistance to support their application will be offered.

Next steps include the Race and Equity Committee meeting on November 18 with the Membership and Outreach team to prepare the one-pager and begin implementing the plan that was developed. Once outreach has been done and informational materials have been created, prospective Commissioners will be invited to participate in a 30-minute information session for prospective applicants. The recording and one-pager will be posted on the City's CYFCC page and posted on social media. By November 30, encourage prospective Commissioners to apply.

Applicants will be invited to watch the City Council meeting where appointments are voted on; this invitation will be included in the one-pager. All applicants, whether they are appointed to the Commission or not, will receive a letter. In the past, applicants who are not appointed were invited to volunteer on the Commission.

## **NEW BUSINESS - CO-SPONSORSHIP OF FALL COMMUNITY MEETING**

The Commission was invited to co-sponsor a Fall Community meeting with the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP) and Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA). The event will include a panel where youth will be asked to share their perspectives and lessons learned about engagement practices used by organizations that worked or didn't work. Adults will then be engaged in a dialogue about what they heard and how they will apply what they've learned. Responsibilities of co-sponsorship include planning, promoting the event, encouraging Commissioners to attend, and talk about the event at the following Commission meeting.

Motion to co-sponsor the event was moved and carried. Jessy Cuddy volunteered to represent the Commission on the Planning Committee.

The event will take place on December 9 from 4:30-6:30 and will be virtual.

**NEW BUSINESS - COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP AND LEADERSHIP**

Goal Group Committees were encouraged to select a standing meeting time and discuss their next steps. Each Group was sent a doodle poll to vote on their ideal standing meeting time. Members were also pushed to identify a lead for their Group or consider rotating the responsibilities among all the members.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:12PM.