

**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION**  
**MEETING NOTES – DECEMBER 11, 2013**  
**CITY HALL, SISTER CITIES ROOM**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present**

Gisselle Brown	J. Glenn Hopkins	Timothy Peterson
Bill Campbell	Mike Mackey	Cynthia Skinner
Rosario Casiano	Tammy Mann	Dan Solomon
Andria Cook	Sean McEneaney	Margaret Walsh
Rose Dawson	Gwen Mullen	Eric Williams
Mike Gilmore	Jeffrey Murphy	Marc Williams
Samuel Hanoura		

**Excused Absent**

Councilman John Chapman	Stacey Joyner	Gerald Mann
Hyun Choi	Councilman Tim Lovain	Sonia Price
William Chesley		

**Absent**

Nelson Majano	Joyce Rawlings	Emma West
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**Staff**

Deborah Warren	Carol Farrell	Ron Frazier
Jacqueline Coachman	Barbara Farrington	

**WELCOME**

Chair Tim Peterson welcomed the newest member of the Children, Youth & Families Collaborative Commission. Gisselle Brown is a parent and a Special Education Teacher with Fairfax County Public Schools.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT NOVEMBER MEETING NOTES**

Gwen Mullen recommended the draft meeting notes be revised to read “metrics needed to measure movement towards goals” rather than “metrics needed to measure movement”. On a motion by Tammy Mann and a second by Margee Walsh, the meeting notes were approved as revised.

**PRESENTATION: BRIEFING ON THE PREPARATION OF THE CITY’S PROPOSED FY 2015 BUDGET**

Nelsie Smith, Director of the City’s Office of Management and Budget, introduced the new budget process as the next step in an increasingly detailed progression from the City Strategic Plan to the City Manager’s Performance Plan to the Department Work Plan (DWP) to the Budget Proposal. Each plan in the progression is comprised of four focus areas that represent outcomes: Safe, Secure & Just Community; Healthy & Thriving Residents; Accountable, Effective & Well-Managed Government; and Livable, Green & Prosperous City. ACPS and DCHS are

components of the Healthy & Thriving Residents grouping. Ms. Smith noted that any requests for City funding must be submitted to OMB by December 20.

The City began compiling performance data in 1961. It was the position of Ms. Mann that while data may be collected, it is not clear how to use that data to make a difference. Dan Solomon asked if the City was doing anything to assist service providers with better utilization of data. The response of Ms. Smith was that there is a proposal in the Capital Budget to actually compile a data base. Glenn Hopkins expressed hope that consideration will be given to contracting with nonprofits for the provision of some services.

Mr. Solomon moved to request the posting of City Manager's Performance Plan on the City's website as soon as possible. Sean McEneaney seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### **UPDATE ON DRAFT CHILDREN AND YOUTH MASTER PLAN ROLL OUT**

Cynthia Skinner informed commissioners that an overview of comments from the community forums and CYFCC website is being prepared by staff and will be reviewed by the Executive Committee. In addition, a permanent email address will be established for comments from those who do not wish to post comments on the website. Ms. Skinner stated a number of groups have requested the plan.

Deborah Warren announced childcare and translation services will be available at the forum scheduled for December 16 at T.C. Williams. She also noted that the ACPS Special Education Advisory Committee is hosting a presentation on the Children and Youth Master Plan on December 17.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Andria Cook, Co-Chair of the Outreach/Membership Committee, announced letters advertising the opportunity to volunteer on a CYFCC committee have been sent. To date, two applications for volunteer positions have been submitted. Ms. Cook urged all commissioners to actively recruit potential candidates.

The Advocacy Committee is developing a CYFCC state legislative agenda. Committee Chair Glenn Hopkins also mentioned a survey commissioned by Alexandria Council of Human Service Organizations (ACHSO) on economics and services, and the impact of nonprofits on the City of Alexandria's return on investment. A report on the survey will be released in January. Mr. Hopkins stated no response to the CYFCC letter of 2012 regarding Special Use Permits has been received.

Bill Campbell considers City Council approval of conduits at the T.C. Williams tennis courts (which will enable the installation of lights at a later date) an opportunity for advocacy. It was the position of Jeff Murphy that if the City can afford the land, it can afford the lights. Chair Peterson urged everyone to contact City Council in support of lights for the tennis courts.

Mr. Hopkins discussed proposed changes to the child care regulations of the Virginia Department of Social Services. The changes require that child care applicants be at least 18 years of age (meaning teen mothers could not apply), and that families be limited to six years of child

care. As a result, school age children in those families would not be eligible for afterschool care. Carol Farrell noted that 95% of the parents in the child care program are employed and the other 5% are in training. Comments on the proposed changes must be submitted to the Virginia Town Hall public web site by January 17. Mr. Hopkins will circulate talking points to CYFCC by that date. On a motion by Ms. Mann and a second by Gwen Mullen, commissioners voted unanimously to submit comments in opposition to the proposed changes.

Sean McEneaney, Chair of the Finance/Grants Committee, reported the committee will circulate an outline of a plan of work for the next seven months. The committee is also looking at the budgetary implications of the Children & Youth Master Plan and will draft recommendations regarding plan implementation.

According to Ms. Skinner, Chair of the Research/Data Committee, the committee is considering a process for refining the goals of the Children & Youth Master Plan. Recommendations will be presented at the January meeting.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Risk and Reach Study released by ACT and the Early Care & Education Work Group will be on the agenda of the CYFCC Executive Committee meeting of January 8. The report of the Committee on the Fund for Human Services is available on the City's website and is scheduled for the City Council meeting of January 28, 2014.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.