

Metro Social Services Board of Commissioners
Meeting Summary
of
July 28, 2010

Board Members Present: Howard Gentry, Patrick Willard, Mary Kate Mouser, George Price, Frank Boehm and Bill Sinclair
Board Members Absent: Gwen Harris
Legal Advisor: Christy Feldman
Mayor Liaison: Hershell Warren

Commissioner Gentry called the meeting to order by welcoming everyone.

Commissioner Gentry then requested a motion to approve the June 23 meeting summary. Motion was properly made, seconded and accepted unanimously.

Director's Report

Renee Pratt thanked the board members who were able to attend the Poverty Council meeting that was held on this past Monday. Ms. Pratt stated that she had received very positive feedback regarding this meeting.

Ms. Pratt then reported on the flood recovery update. All the cases that related strictly to the flood were transferred to the McGruder Family Resource Center. However, MSS is still monitoring cases that had multiple issues in addition to flood damage. We do have case workers who are still working with clients who resided in tent city, helping them to get housing. We are also providing case management for the North Nashville Flood Recovery Project lead by Harold Love. Dinah Gregory will also be assisting the Mayor's office with the case management committee. We hope to have more information regarding the funding by the state soon.

Ms. Pratt stated that each board packet should contain a document, "Lessons Learned from Other Disaster Recoveries", prepared by the Planning and Coordination (P&C) unit of Social Services (MSS). The Mayor's office has reviewed this document and currently is using some of the information stated within this document as ways of moving forward from the flood.

Finance

Ms. McEwen began her report by stating that the books are not closed and we will continue to input entries until the middle of August. Currently we are about \$355,000 under budget, and Ms. McEwen is projecting we will be about \$248,000 under budget.

Ms. McEwen stated that administration is making some operational changes within the agency. The Intake and Assessment Program has been integrated with the Family Support program.

There is \$23,000 in the Special Donations Fund, and there are expected to be additional charges with ARRA Fund. The flood expenditures will be reimbursed to the Metro

Government General Fund in the amount of \$2341.59 and the vehicle rate is being computed.

Poverty Council

Commissioner Boehm stated that the Nashville Poverty Council met for the first time on July 26, and it was a great beginning. This meeting brought together seven implementation groups that reported on their baseline status. The Poverty Council was advised that no funding has been designated yet, but they have been requesting ideas for projects in the seven implementation areas (child care, economic opportunity, food, health, housing, neighborhood development and workforce development).

Commissioner Boehm stated that we must work in tandem. The Planning and Coordination Committee needs to reconvene to address issues such as policy changes, finances, the Community Needs Evaluation Update and to prepare for the December 9 event. Commissioner Gentry stated that the Ad Hoc Committee looks at Planning and Coordination beyond the poverty initiative as it relates to Social Services and the Community Needs Evaluation. Dinah will be sure a public announcement is sent out prior to each Poverty Council meeting so that all board members can attend.

Commissioner Gentry selected the members of this committee and they are as follows: Frank Boehm, Chairman, Dan Cornfield, Elder Roderick Glatt, Dinah Gregory, Renee Pratt, Bob McNeilly, Avi Poster and Lisa Pote.

Commissioner Sinclair asked for a one page organizational chart to detail the significant components and Dinah Gregory will see that this chart is available.

Board Committees

Commissioner Gentry recommended that the Personnel and Nomination Committee be combined, to consist of Commissioner Boehm, Commissioner Gentry, Commissioner Price and Commissioner Mouser, Chairperson.

The Governance Committee would consist of Commissioner Sinclair, Commissioner Harris and Commissioner Willard, Chairperson.

The Bylaws Committee will consist of Commissioner Sinclair, Commissioner Price and Commissioner Harris, Chairperson.

Commissioner Price made the motion that we combine the Personnel and Nomination Committee, Motion was moved and seconded.

Board Orientation

Ms. Pratt began by describing the new board manual distributed to each MSS Commissioner. The manual has been condensed to only include the pertinent information that each board member should need. Ms. Pratt stated that today she has asked staff to give a brief description of their job description and day to day responsibilities and end with and any trends or comments since the flood.

The staff persons and departments are as follows:

- Yuri Hancock – Human Resources
- Pam McEwen – Finance
- Michelle Rikli – Quality Improvement
- Pat Wingfield & Addie Degraphenreed – Homemakers
- Steve Lavigne & Leigh Wooding – Transportation
- Carol Wilson – Nutrition
- Carol Wilson – Indigent Burial

Commissioner Boehm requested that we have an update from Pat Wingfield regarding the funding that would reflect the needs for the baby boomers. Commissioner Boehm also suggested a task force be developed to plan out how the baby boomers will effect next years budget. Commissioner Boehm would like to see MSS aggressively put together a proposal for an increase of home services that would include home delivered meals.

Commissioner Willard asked for a break down of the number of people receiving home and community based services funded through Options, Choices and other sources. We should also try and get the total TennCare figures for Davidson County. Commissioner Willard stated that it is important to be aware of future needs of the aging population to make the case for what is happening in Davidson County. Commissioner Willard requested information about the people who are receiving home and community based services to identify how much money is saved with home and community based services rather than institutional care.

Commissioner Sinclair asked to see the numbers that were mapped out for the land to be used for indigent burial.

It was then decided presentation from Tarver Smith – Adult and Family, Giovanni Corley – Homeless and Dinah Gregory – Planning and Coordination would be postponed until the August Board meeting.

Commissioner Gentry called for the meeting to be adjourned.