

**METROPOLITAN ACTION COMMISSION**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**  
**Douglass Head Start Center**  
**621 Howerton Street, Nashville, TN 37206**  
**June 23, 2022 / 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm**

*Attachment 1*

Present: Telisha Cobb, Kathy Floyd-Buggs, Tanya Hancock, Joseph Mitchell, LaVoneia Steele, and Troy White

Absent: Fatima Ali, Kasey Anderson, Leslie Buggs, Kanika Covert, Karen Doty, Flo Kidd, Renee Pratt, Joy Styles

Team members/Others: Marvin Cox, Cynthia Croom, Oluwadamilola Dairo, Benita Davis, Tanya Evrenson, Lisa McCrady, Rickie McQueen, Donald Parham, and Derrick Smith (Metro Attorney)

Dr. LaVoneia C. Steele, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:010 p.m.

A quorum was not present.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** *as provided by Dr. Cynthia Croom, Executive Director*

Metro Council passed the FY23 budget and added two additional items to MAC's budget that were not a part of the Mayor's proposed budget: \$50,000 for MAC's Workforce Development to be used for Music City Construction Careers and \$100,000 to hire a support specialist for daycare centers.

The HOPE portal will close to new applications on June 30. A meeting is scheduled with the Tennessee Housing and Development Agency (THDA) to discuss Davidson County residents using the THDA portal for ERA rental assistance beginning July 1. Using remaining HOPE dollars, MAC will have HOPE staff continue to assist customers with how to use the kiosks; however, customers will only be able to use the kiosks to submit an online application to THDA for rental assistance. MAC will not determine customer eligibility.

Dr. Croom will be a panelist at the CAPLAW national conference next week.

The Office of Head Start/Early Head Start notified programs they are returning to pre-Covid monitor regulations for both enrollment and attendance. The agency has convened a recruitment committee to help ensure full enrollment. Currently, the agency competes with the Metro Nashville Schools Pre-K program for enrollment of 3- and 4-year old children, especially as our Head Start centers are now surrounded by MNPS pre-k sites.

We will also make a request to the Office of Head Start/Early Head Start for permission to raise the Head Start/Early Head Start income eligibility to 130% of the poverty guidelines in response to the recent high cost of living in Davidson County, particularly with rent costs.

The Office of Head Start has notified programs that SNAP recipients are categorically eligible for the Head Start/Early Head Start program.

MAC Head Start/Early Head Start and MAC Human Resources team members are working on a recruitment strategy for staff, especially teaching staff with an emphasis on Early Head Start teaching staff as the Office of Head Start has determined that virtual learning is no longer an option for Early Head Start children.

**PROGRAM REPORTS**

**Communications** – The Fan and Air Conditioner program has received donations of many air conditioners as a result media releases. Also, Channel 5 news will report about the program today, June 23. Report attached.

**Family & Community Services** – When the program report was submitted as part of the board, only 24 air conditioners had been distributed. With the current heat wave coupled with media releases, 61 air conditioners have been distributed as of today. Six air conditioners were donated on Friday, June 17. Report attached.

**Housing, Opportunity, Partnerships, & Employment (HOPE)** – Report provided by Executive Director.

**Early Education & Youth** – Report attached.

**Policy Council** – No report.

**Workforce Development** – Report attached.

**Transformation & Innovation** – No report.

**Administrative Services and Operations** – Report attached.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by:

Joseph Mitchell, Board Secretary