

**SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FEBRUARY 28, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

Board Members Present: Anna Arvay – Chair, Omar Banks, Diane Miller-Dawson, Nancy Holland, Beth Kuckuck, Joseph Morris, Katie Stoyhoff

Board Members Absent: Anne Connell-Freund – Vice Chair, GinaKaye Maddox – Secretary, Rev. Dr. Luther Cooper, Keith Malick

Staff Present: Julie Barnes, Amy Davidson, Darin Kearns, Valarie Nash, Katerina Papas, Darlene Baad, Dawn Boudrie, Robert King, Audrey Kohrs, Sushila Moore, Ann Ream, Michelle Tersigni, Beth Lowe - Recording Secretary

Others Present: Tom Lavery, Jen Thames, Robin Schenault

Call to Order and Roll Call

Ms. Arvay called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Arvay requested a motion to approve the minutes of January 24, 2017. Ms. Holland moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Mrs. Stoyhoff. The motion carried.

Public Comment

Mr. Lavery addressed the Board regarding agency policies and procedures.

Women's Auxiliary Board

Ms. Thames, Women's Auxiliary Board (WAB) President, announced that the WAB earned \$450 from the Acme receipts that were collected for the Community Cash Back Program and thanked all who collected them. The WAB received two grants for the Beds for Kids program: \$11,000 from the Akron Community Foundation; and \$5,000 from the O'Neil Foundation for bedding. In addition, the WAB received: \$532 in memorial donations from a member that passed away, which will be used for diapers and formula in the emergency packets; and \$5,000 in contributions from WAB members and members of the community for the Sharing and Caring Fund. This fund is used to supplement enrichment activities for children in care such as music or dance lessons, and camp. In 2016, the funding paid for 45 children to attend camp. Last month, members packed brochures for Child and Family Awareness Month and the craft committee made over 200 craft kits to be used by children and their families during visits at the Family Interaction Center (FIC). Ms. Arvay thanked the WAB for their monetary donations especially for the Beds for Kids program.

Committee Reports

Resources Committee

Mr. Morris, Committee Vice-Chair, reported that the committee met today, approved the minutes of January 24, 2017, and had a discussion on the Summit 2020 Quality of Life Project. Mr. Morris introduced **Resolution 02-2017-28/C** requesting authorization to execute a renewal of the Summit 2020 Quality of Life Project Intergovernmental Agreement with the County of Summit Department of Job and Family Services (SCJFS), the County of Summit Board of Developmental Disabilities (DD), and the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services (ADM) Board, and to expend an amount which shall not exceed \$65,000 in support thereof over the two-year term of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2018. On behalf of the Resources committee, Mr. Morris made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Holland. Mr. Morris opposed. Ms. Kuckuck abstained. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

The Resources Committee heard a financial statement report from Mr. Kearns. As part of the Resources Committee report, Mr. Kearns provided to the full Board a summary of the financial statement report.

Resolution 02-2017-28/D

Authorization to issue an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for snow removal services in order to identify a qualified vendor who is willing and able to provide services to SCCS. Mr. Morris made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Kuckuck. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 02-2017-28/E

Authorization to dispose of surplus inventory of miscellaneous equipment and furniture that has become damaged and/or obsolete and which is no longer in agency use. These items will be listed on the County of Summit Declaration of Surplus Inventory Form and submitted to the County for approval. Mr. Morris made a motion to approve; seconded by Mrs. Stoyhoff. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 02-2017-28/F

Authorization to approve the revised 'Reporting off from Duty' policy and procedure which outlines how agency staff are to notify the SCCS Administration when they are unable to report to work. Mr. Morris made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Holland. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 02-2017-28/G

Authorization to enter into an amended Agreement with OhioGuidestone for the provision of Recovery Coach Services for STARS clients for the remainder of a one-year term, which commenced September 30, 2016 and will terminate on September 30, 2017, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 annually. Mr. Morris made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Miller-Dawson. Ms. Kuckuck abstained. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Resolution 02-2017-28/H

Authorization to approve a lump sum compensation adjustment for Executive Director, Julie Barnes, equal to 2.25% of her current salary in lieu of a general wage increase retroactive to January 1, 2017. Mr. Morris made a motion to approve; seconded by Ms. Holland. The motion carried. Resolution approved.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Barnes reported the following:

- Custody numbers have remained fairly level this month. Currently, there are approximately 670 children in agency custody, as compared to 675 last month.
- All children in agency custody are on Managed Care plans, as of February 1.
- Family meetings continue to be effective in safely maintaining children in their own home; addressing safety issues and returning children home as quickly as possible; as well as having a positive impact on custody numbers.
- Two external candidates have been hired for Intake supervisor positions. Both candidates come to the agency with a wealth of child welfare and managerial experience.
- The agency posted for an Assistant Intake Director to help better manage the extensive workload in Intake. The agency also posted for a new Social Service Programs Director due to the move of Ann Ream to Community Relations.
- There are several caseworker vacancies in Intake. Our next new hire class of caseworkers is scheduled for the end of March and there is a possibility of another class starting in May.
- We have been able to access time-limited grant funding through the Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services (ADM) Board, for the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) respite program to maintain children with their families and avoid custody. In cooperation with the ADM Board, we are able to refer families with youth who are experiencing

non-abuse and neglect issues, such as child mental health and/or delinquency issues, for in-home assessments and respite.

- Thank you to the WAB for their donation of \$15,000 towards the Beds for Kids program. This program provides cribs and beds for children who are sleeping in unsafe conditions and when the family, including kinship families, has limited or no resources. The Beds for Kids program is funded solely by contributions from the community.
- The agency is in the fifth year of the STARS program. A site visit with Children and Family Futures (CFF) in conjunction with the Family Reunification through Recovery Court (FRRC) is scheduled next week, where they will look at a sustainability plan for both programs. The agency is in the process of preparing to apply for an extension to the current grant to use any unused dollars in a sixth year, and is also looking at the potential of applying for an additional grant to expand the population of clients served.
- There are a number of eligible employees who can retire during the next three years, so a Leadership Program is being developed to provide structured leadership development to employees at all levels of the agency.
- All non-bargaining unit/management (NBU/MGMT) policies and procedures originally maintained in an employee handbook have been updated and are now accessible via the agency's intranet.
- Four part-time, grant-funded Community Health Workers began their 12-month employment on February 21. They spent their first week at Summit County Public Health and began in their respective roles at SCCS on February 27. By the end of the 12-month grant period, each employee will have received certification through the Ohio Board of Nursing and will have gained valuable on-the-job training from the agency.
- The agency was contacted by a Probate attorney and advised that we are the recipient of \$97,000 from a recent estate. At this time, we are unsure of the connection of the individual to the agency.
- April is Child and Family Awareness Month and many activities are planned.
- Channel 3 conducted an on-camera interview with our Community Relations Director Ann Ream about the adoption process, which was followed by a statement by NBC's Today show anchor that she is adopting.
- The Akron Beacon Journal Editorial Board interviewed Ms. Barnes, along with the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO) Directors, and published an editorial regarding the impact of the opioid epidemic on child protection and the need for funding in the state biennium budget.
- Ms. Barnes thanked the board for their kind words in her performance evaluation and for their support.

Adjournment

Ms. Arvay requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Banks moved; seconded by Mrs. Stoyhoff. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.



GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary
Board of Trustees



Julie Barnes, M.Ed., LSW
Executive Director