

**LANCASTER COUNTY CHILDREN & YOUTH AGENCY
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

November 16, 2015

Board Members Present: Jeffrey Shank, Rebecca Sollenberger, Loretta Nolt, Dawn Horst, Joshua Keller, Christine Connelly, George Pappas, Eric Pettis and Sally Metz

Staff Present: Crystal Natan, Amy Campbell, Betsy Frame, Kelley Zipp and Kali Kunkle

Excused: Commissioner Scott Martin, Richard Rush, Ryan Aument, Brett Cole, Juli Vesper, Ollie Jones and Stephanie Roy

Public: None

Guests: Amanda Fontaine, intern from Millersville University

Call to Order: Board Chair Jeffrey Shank called the meeting to order at 7:38 a.m.

Approval of Board Minutes: Dawn Horst made a motion that the minutes from the May 2015 Board meeting be accepted as presented. George Pappas seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Introduction of New Members: Today was the first meeting for Sally Metz and Eric Pettis.

Director's Report:

- The State has still not passed the budget, which was to be effective as of July 1, 2015. As a result, all incoming child welfare funds are on hold. We informed our purchase placement providers and consultants that we are unable to pay invoices for services provided after July 1, 2015, until a State budget is passed. Several providers have contacted us indicating that they are unable to meet their financial obligations. In order to fund expenses, the County is looking into obtaining a tax anticipation loan. At this time, the County has decided against implementing any staff furloughs or anything to impact the current County staff.
- There is a hiring freeze in effect because of the budget impasse. We have two supervisor and six caseworker vacancies.
- Placements and referrals continue to rise. We have experienced a drastic increase in referrals regarding Heroin and synthetic marijuana or K-2 usage.
- Our legal services have been restructured. All Agency attorneys are now County employees, working through the County Solicitor's Office. Two positions have been hired and it is expected the remaining position will be hired for by the end of the year. Dave Alspach, will be retiring after 42 years of service.
- Commissioner Scott Martin will be ending his term as Commissioner at the end of the year. Joshua Parsons has been elected as the new Commissioner.

- We are still working on the database conversion to CAPS, the State approved database.
- Crystal discussed the new Federal legislation, HR 4980, known as the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act. We are currently preparing to train all staff and resource parents on the various components of the Act prior to December 31, 2015.
- Credit checks are now being conducted on all children who are in care and over 14 years of age, to detect any concerns for identity theft, as required under HR 4980.

Upcoming Events: None

Announcements: Resource Parent Christmas Party will be on December 12, 2015 at Willow Valley. There will be breakfast served, a visit from Santa, gifts, activities and a performance by King's Strings.

Public Comment: None

Meeting was adjourned at 8:41 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, February 16, 2016
7:30 - 9:00 a.m.
at
150 North Queen Street, Lancaster, PA

Respectfully submitted,

Kali Kunkle