

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

May 16, 2016

**Board Members Present:** Jeffrey Shank, Rebecca Sollenberger, Loretta Nolt, Dawn Horst, Joshua Keller, George Pappas, Eric Pettis

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

**Excused:** Commissioner Dennis Stuckey, Richard Rush, Sally Metz, Ryan Aument, Brett Cole, Juli Vesper, Ollie Jones, Christine Connelly, and Stephanie Roy

**Public:** None

**Guests:** Jim Doughty, T.W. Ponessa and Associates

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

**Approval of Board Minutes:** George Pappas made a motion that the minutes from the November 2015 Board meeting be accepted as presented. Loretta Nolt seconded. Motion passed.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Jeffrey Shank presented the slate of officers for the 2016-2017 Board term:

- Chair-George Pappas
- Vice Chair- Joshua Keller

The Board voted unanimously in favor of the slate as presented.

Jeffrey Shank and Loretta Nolt were thanked for 6 years of service on the Board. This was their last meeting. Stephanie Roy, Juli Vesper and Ollie Jones have resigned.

There was also discussion about the frequency of the meetings and whether or not that schedule was working. At this time, we will continue with quarterly meetings.

**Director's Report:**

- The State Budget has been passed. Because of the prior budget impasse, the County implemented a hiring freeze from August 2015 through early February 2016. We had many vacancies during that time which could not be filled, including two supervisor positions. Now that the Budget is approved, we are in the process of filling those vacancies and hiring an additional screening caseworker, abuse caseworker and two intake caseworkers.
- The number of children entering placements and the overall number of referrals continues to rise. We have experienced a drastic increase in referrals involving heroin and other addiction issues. There are also more referrals for adolescents with behavioral and/or mental health issues or who are committing delinquent

acts. The County is exploring the possibility of using the empty YIC pod for an intensive, outpatient clinic for adolescents and families. Crystal also discussed some of the struggles with homeless families. In order to get services from homeless shelters or other related services, clients cannot be residing with family or friends. We are often faced with situations where placement of children is necessary until the parent(s) can find shelter.

- There has been an increase in refugee families being resettled in the County. Lancaster and Allentown are the hubs in Pennsylvania for these efforts. Crystal is working with the Commissioners to have government officials invited to participate and be involved with planning, housing and discussion on the impact of this influx on the community's infrastructure. There is also a lack of translation services for some populations who speak relatively obscure dialects. The Agency contracts for both in person and written translation services.
- We converted to the new CAPS database on Friday. We will still be working with the LUIS database for Federal reporting for an additional six months. We have provided training to all staff.
- Andrea McCue has resigned as the Chief Clerk for the County. Robert Still has been hired as her replacement. Scott Martin has finished out his term as County Commissioner and Joshua Parson is now a County Commissioner. Christina Hausner has also been hired as the new County Solicitor. We currently have 4 Solicitors - David Natan, Claudia Shank, John Churchville and Laura McGarry, assigned to represent the Agency in our various proceedings.

**Upcoming Events:** None

**Announcements:** None

**Public Comment:** None

Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, August 15, 2016**  
**7:30 - 9:00 a.m.**  
**at**  
**150 North Queen Street, Lancaster, PA**

Respectfully submitted,

Kali Kunkle