

Human Services Council Meeting
February 1, 2016, 7:30 PM
MEETING MINUTES

MEMBER NAME		MEMBER NAME	
Kevin H. Bell, Chair	<i>Present</i>	William Kogler	<i>Present</i>
Col. Marion (Barney) Barnwell	<i>Excused</i>	Stephanie Mensh	<i>Present</i>
Dr. Jennifer Anne Bishop	<i>Absent</i>	Michele Menapace	<i>Present</i>
Steven Bloom	<i>Present</i>	Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Poje	<i>Present</i>
Jeff Dannick	<i>Excused</i>	Dr. Sergio Rimola	<i>Present</i>
Jack Dobbyn	<i>Excused</i>	Rev. Alexis Vaughan Kassim	<i>Present</i>
Robert Faherty	<i>Excused</i>	Adrienne Walters	<i>Excused</i>
Rev. Dr. Jerrold Foltz	<i>Present</i>	Henry Wulf	<i>Excused</i>
Staff:			
Michelle Gregory, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)			<i>Present</i>
Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive			<i>Present</i>
Gail Ledford, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Ron McDevitt, Department of Administration for Human Services (DAHS)			<i>Present</i>
Tracy Steffek, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)			<i>Present</i>

Guests and County Staff: Rosalyn Foroobar, Robert Easley, Carita Parks, Lee Ann Pender, Jess Werder, Casey Barry and Brian Barry.

7:40 p.m. – Welcome and Overview – Kevin Bell opened the meeting welcoming new Hunter Mill District representative, Reverend Alexis Vaughan Kassim. Reverend Alexis Vaughan Kassim introduced herself as the Associate Minister at Westmoreland Congregational United Church of Christ and shared her background in human services.

Community Dialogue Meeting Debrief – A community dialogue session, hosted by the Council, was held on Saturday, January 30, 2016. Members from Fairfax County’s Boards, Authorities and Commissions (BACs) were invited to provide input on how to effectively message the role and work of the human services system with one united voice. Michelle Gregory and Jess Werder provided a brief summary of the event.

Several Council members attended the event and shared their experiences. Kevin Bell asked all members who attended comment on their experience. The Council noted that a prevailing theme was how human services connects to and impacts public safety, the school system, and the local economy. The break-out sessions were rich in high-level conversation about the human services system and participants valued the opportunity to hear contribution from others. There were many new participants who attended the event and this could be an opportunity to tap into new interest. There was also some group discussion about how to effectively communicate with the general public and provide members of the BACs with tools to help them in their discussions about the human services system. Kevin Bell emphasized the importance of broadening the conversation to include partners, non-profit organizations, and the faith community. Deputy County Executive Pat Harrison, echoed the importance of providing these tools, incorporating a broader group of stakeholders and stressed that the work surrounding this effort is ongoing.

2016 Calendar Review – The Council’s calendar for 2016 was discussed and revised in accordance with the budget schedule.

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Approval of Council Meeting Minutes – The minutes from the December 21, 2015, meeting were approved. Jerry Poje noted that he was marked as present on the minutes, but was excused. The error was corrected. Kevin Bell noted that there are members listed on the minutes who no longer attend meetings. Staff are continuing to follow up with the Clerk's office to confirm these vacancies and have new representatives appointed to the HSC.

Adjournment – Jerry Poje announced that the Hunter Mill Huddle will be held on February 20, 2016. He is participating on a panel about needs within his district in coordination with the Chair of the Fairfax County School Board.

The next full membership meeting will be on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at Providence Community Center in Classroom #2. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.