

Human Services Council Meeting
Monday, March 22, 2010
Government Center, Conference Rooms 4 & 5

| MEMBER NAME | | MEMBER NAME | |
|---|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Kevin H. Bell, Chairman | <i>Excused</i> | Tom Grodek | <i>Present</i> |
| Colonel Marion Barnwell | <i>Present</i> | Carol Hawn | <i>Present</i> |
| Richard P. Berger | <i>Excused</i> | Bill Kogler | <i>Present</i> |
| Wendy Breseman | <i>Present</i> | Herk Latimer | <i>Present</i> |
| John Byers | <i>Present</i> | Laura I. McDowall | <i>Excused</i> |
| Robert L. Faherty | <i>Present</i> | Stephanie Mensh | <i>Present</i> |
| Donna J. Fleming | <i>Present</i> | Kathleen Murphy | <i>Excused</i> |
| Baba Freeman | <i>Excused</i> | Dr. Virginia P. Norton | <i>Excused</i> |
| Robert Gaudian | <i>Excused</i> | Herbert James Smith | <i>Present</i> |
| Richard Gonzalez | <i>Excused</i> | Henry Wulf | <i>Present</i> |
| Staff: | | | |
| Patricia Harrison, Deputy County Executive | | | <i>Present</i> |
| Ken Disselkoen, Department of Systems Management for Human Services (DSMHS) | | | <i>Present</i> |
| Chip Gertzog, Department of Systems Management for Human Services (DSMHS) | | | <i>Present</i> |
| Elisa Lueck, Department of Systems Management for Human Services (DSMHS) | | | <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> |

Guests and Other Attendees: George Braunstein, Marijke Hannam, Martin Taylor

Call to order: 7:30 PM

Henry Wulf called the meeting to order. Mr. Wulf asked Council members to take 20 minutes to review the “Recommendations regarding the FY 2011 Advertised Budget Plan” memo dated March 26, 2010.

Council Discussion of Testimony and the Letter to the Board of Supervisors Regarding the FY 2011 Advertised Budget: 7:55 p.m.

Henry Wulf began by commending Ron McDevitt for his work on the memo. Mr. Wulf noted that the deadline for sending the memo to the Board of Supervisors is noon on Thursday, March 25. Accordingly, all comments from Council members are due no later than noon on Wednesday, March 24.

Mr. Wulf asked the Council if they believed any critical pieces were missing in the memo, or if any additional emphases were needed.

Question and Answer:

Donna Fleming: For the five bullet items on page 5, it would be helpful if we provided the reader with language that speaks to “of the overall budget reduction, we’re asking for “x” portion back”, so it’s clear that we’re not looking for all of the money to be restored, but rather a portion of it. For example, of \$5 million, we’re asking for \$1.3 million back. This way, it shows that although we’re asking for money back, we’re still leaving a significant amount on the table.

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Also, could we reflect back on what each of these five areas saw in budget cuts last year?

Response: Ron McDevitt will adjust and put in a table format.

Tom Grodek: Recommend focusing on the total of the three big categories, not each of the individual five items.

Stephanie Mensh: Received e-mail message related to a mentoring program for children in foster care. After reviewing materials, can't see where it's cut or redirected and am confused as to what exactly has happened and what they want restored.

Response: This was an overall effort from DFS to identify areas for realignment and restructuring to create efficiencies. This was done outside of any formal budget effort and was not part of FY 2011 budget development. Determined that youth getting ready to transition out of the system with no supports needed to be the focus (almost 200 children). The intent is not to abandon concept of mentoring, but to expand it and target it to the youth who need it the most.

Tom Grodek: Page 21 of Nanette Bowler's presentation also addresses this.

Stephanie Mensh: Can we put a sentence in the letter on page 7 to say that we heard discussion about this, including looking for alternative ways to support mentoring program, etc.

Response: We'll add it in as a separate paragraph here.

Robert Faherty: When we had presentation from the County Executive, he challenged us that if we asked for items to be restored, we offer something up in return. This letter doesn't do that.

Response: We could acknowledge what he said but say that we still believe these items should be restored. Also, if we proposed additional cuts that the community hasn't had the opportunity to vet, that could be unfair to the community. We can put in a paragraph that speaks to this.

Carol Hawn: Regarding the discussion that was held regarding BACs, reorganization and consolidation, is that captured in here? Or did we decide it's not a budget issue?

Response – We could put a statement about continuing to streamline/align BACs but recommend taking the time to look further at this next year.

Henry Wulf asked the group to proceed page by page to discuss any feedback on the memorandum.

Page 1:

Carol Hawn: Is it still called Area Agency on Aging?

Response: Yes, although for budget purposes it's referred to as something else, it is still Area Agency on Aging.

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Page 2:

Stephanie Mensh: The second sentence references “new normal”. This does not appear to have the same meaning as the County Executive assigned to “new normal”.

Response: Will adjust the language in the memo.

Page 3:

John Byers: In the first bullet, second line, we reference eliminating redundant management and support structures. Are those new redundancies created by realignment? Or are they old redundancies and, if so, why weren’t they taken out last year?

Response: Because of extensive work done by DFS, as they “peeled back the onion” they identified items to cut.

John Byers: In last paragraph, change language from “will result in reduced county expenditures” to “will result in reducing county expenditures by more than \$6 million...”

Tom Grodek: Look at titling of sections

Page 4:

Tom Grodek: Somewhere on top paragraph, we make a break between restructuring and realignment, and then we introduce revenue enhancements. Recommend a break after that first paragraph and pull out a separate section for revenue enhancements.

Response: Will adjust language in the memo.

Stephanie Mensh: Would like to see language that we’re monitoring reorganizations as a Council to see what happens.

Response: Will incorporate language to that effect.

Henry Wulf: Fifth line up from bottom of first paragraph: change language from “may” to “might”

Tom Grodek: In the “Creating a process for the human services system to project long-term needs and to plan as a system to meet those needs” bullet, we did not include people with intellectual disabilities.

Response: It should not include intellectual disabilities; this is a particular program that’s being referenced.

Tom Grodek: Understood, will withdraw request

Page 5:

John Byers: First bullet refers to 10 positions and refers to Attachment A; however, Attachment A only lists out 9 positions

Response: Correct, there are only 9 positions; will correct reference.

John Byers: In the first bullet, consider changing language from “unacceptable” as it might not be best term to use

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Ron McDevitt: In the first bullet, will change reference from “Beeman Commission” to “Josiah H. Beeman Commission”

Tom Grodek: Add in language in first paragraph that refers to revenue enhancements, so show the three distinct components: restructuring, redesign, realignment; revenue enhancements; services reductions

Response: Will adjust language

Stephanie Mensh: 4th bullet has too much jargon and is explained in attachment; recommend trimming down to maybe just first three sentences

In order of magnitude we are putting back \$420,000+ in bullet two and just have one sentence. Recommend making second bullet into two sentences and separating Home Based Care and Domestic and Sexual Violence Services out.

Response: Will adjust language; consider using language such as “...meet needs in two program areas: home based care services and Domestic and Sexual Violence Services”

Gail Ledford: Third bullet; not so much sudden change as an increase in caseloads; look at this language to amend.

Tom Grodek: Donna might want to focus on the fact that this is the only place that we’re asking for that safety net.

Carol Hawn: Is there a reason why taxi access program is mentioned?

Response: Ron, Henry, and Pat provided feedback

Page 6:

Tom Grodek: In the middle of the affordable and accessible housing section, it refers to persons with mental, physical, and sensory disabilities. Did we intend to use mental and did we mean to leave out intellectual?

George Braunstein: Change mental to mental health, and include intellectual

Response: Will change language to “Mental health, intellectual, physical, and sensory disabilities”

Page 7:

Tom Grodek: Two paragraphs in the “Maintaining Independence” section seem to mix things up; first paragraph is about seniors and not sure we intended for second paragraph to be about seniors. Recommend starting second paragraph with “Adults with physical, sensory, and intellectual disabilities need some type of assistance...”

Response: Will adjust language.

Carol Hawn – In the first sentence of the “Maintaining Independence” section, make reference to this County to define parameter.

Response: Will adjust language to refer to Fairfax County.

Pat Harrison: In the last sentence of the second paragraph in the “Maintaining Independence” section, change “supply” to “support”.

Response: Will adjust language.

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Page 8:

Tom talked about “state budget impact” section

George Braunstein: May want to add an F) section about new waiver slots

Tom Grodek: Even if FMAP does happen, we are still getting just a reprieve for a period of time.

Henry Wulf: It’s just being used as an example so no need to elaborate more.

Page 9:

Ron McDevitt: Will change language from “Board” to “Boards”.

Attachment A:

Ron McDevitt: Will change reference from 10 to 9 positions as John had mentioned, and will tighten up language on the attachment.

Henry Wulf noted that Ron McDevitt will make changes he heard tonight and will send to Council members via e-mail tomorrow morning.

Mr. Wulf reiterated that all Council comments will be due by noon on Wednesday, March 24. The Human Services Council presentation will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26 in rooms 9/10.

Deputy County Executive Patricia Harrison has requested one hour for the presentation and Donna Fleming will have approximately 20 minutes for her presentation.

Other Business: None.

Adjournment: 9:02 PM

Staff Support Information (also included on updated roster):

1. **Chip Gertzog:** 703-324-7959 Fax 703-324-7572 E-mail: Cgertz@fairfaxcounty.gov
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