

CAAB Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2021
Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30pm by Michelle Jefferson, who announced she would be calling the roll and making the requisite VAFOIA motions governing virtual meetings.

Roll call, in attendance/member locations: Sandy Chisholm, Providence District; Doug Dane, Annandale; Alicia Doe, Lorton; Jim Edwards-Hewitt, Mason District; Elethia, Reston, VA; Morgan Jameson, Washington, D.C.; Michelle Jefferson, Fairfax County; Debbie Kilpatrick, Clifton; Michael Mahrer, Falls Church; Marcia McDevitt, Reston; Ken McMillon, Providence District; Michele Menapace, SE Fairfax; Isaac Oreo-Montero, Fairfax; Whitney Richardson, Herndon; Phil Rosenthal, Fairfax Station; Heather Thomas, Centreville, VA; Walewska Watkins, Ashburn; Alice Yam, Herndon; Shari Zamarra, Fairfax; Benjamin Zuhl, Dranseville District

Absent: Abdullah Abdulla, Melandee Jones Canady; Hari Kurup, Gene Pettit, Dipti Pidikiti-Smith, Adwoa Rey, Holly Seibold, Willie Williams.

Chair turned over the gavel to Morgan and moved that all members' voices may be heard by all others. Motion was seconded and carried.

Minutes:

Moved for approval by Phil second by Ben. Correction on name spellings and representation. Passed.

Member Sharing:

Shari – concerned there is a shortage of all workers, specifically childcare workers. Also wondering about vaccine and unemployment benefits. Discussion ensued.

Programming:

John introduced Lisa Tatum from Public Assistance and Employment Services. She shared that her division is looking for 'the voice of the people'. Wants to know if it would be okay if people representing the division to attend CAAB meetings.

Michelle Jefferson introduced a Jeannie Chaffin to talk about strategic planning for the CAAB and the D&I workshop. Jeannie previous served as the OCS director under the Obama administration. Jeannine introduced herself and outlined a plan based on listening and best practice implementation for how to move strategic planning forward.

John introduced members of the contracts staff. He noted there were some places where numbers which had been reported were slightly different. The reasoning behind this was because of CSBG clients as opposed to clients broadly. The numbers have been updated and uploaded to the CAAB portal.

Members discussed sending messages/information to the Board of Supervisors, informing them of issues of concern in the community. John mentioned CAAB used to send messages to the Board sharing information about concerns. Some of these are not meant to be addressed on a county level, but it is still of concern to members in our community.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Members and staff provided an update from the DEI Committee. One idea being considered is the learning opportunity which was brought earlier by members of CAAB. The learning opportunities would be focused on certain topics to advance equity as it relates to the work of the CAAB.

Membership & Election Committee

Asked for standing time for membership and election committee on the CAAB agenda.

Member Sharing (cont'd)

Heather shared about an opportunity for individual to interview about a book focusing on homelessness and solutions to end homelessness.

Shari encouraged members to join the Zoning/Land Use Committee in their neighborhoods.

Michelle Jefferson made several closing comments.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ken McMillon and seconded. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:35pm.

Submitted by Morgan Jameson and Mena Nakhla