

**Fairfax Area Disability Services Board
Full Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 13, 2023**

FA-DSB Members in Attendance:

- Deborah Hammer, Chair, Mount Vernon District
- Brandis Ruise, Vice Chair, Hunter Mill District
- Deborah Cohen, Braddock District
- Lindsay Harris, City of Falls Church
- Sarah Graham Taylor, Franconia District
- Robin Rinearson O.D., Mason District
- Diane Monnig, Providence District
- Courtney Cezair Mayers, Dranesville District
- Christie Garton, At-Large
- Benjamin Gibbs, At-Large
- Andrew Magill, At-Large
- David E. Simon, At-Large

FA-DSB Members Absent from the Meeting:

- Michael Ritter, Springfield District - Unexcused
- Erika James-Jackson, Sully District- Excused

Others Present: Claudia Vila (DFS staff), Karen Kelly (DFS staff), Trina Mayhan-Webb (DFS staff), Lou Nuzzo (Office of County Attorney-staff), Courtney Arroyo (DEMS staff), Carly Mullinax (DEMS staff), Stirling Findley (member of the public).

Deborah made the motion that the Fairfax Area-Disability Services Board (DSB) go into Closed Session, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) for the purpose of consultation with its legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by the DSB's counsel. The subject matter to be discussed and considered are DSB questions regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act and meetings of the DSB as they are regulated under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Staff moved members of the public into the virtual waiting room and the DSB went into closed session.

At approximately 7:33 pm, Deborah read the cleansing motion, taking the DSB out of closed session. It was seconded and approved. Members of the public were moved from the virtual waiting room into the Zoom meeting. Deborah then read the all-virtual public meeting script. She took roll call and made a motion for the virtual meeting to commence. It was seconded.

The board met virtually, via zoom, a quorum was present with all members attending virtually. All members could be heard via roll call. All members stated they were calling from home.

Members of the public had the ability to access the meeting via Zoom.

Minutes and Agenda:

1. **Call to Order:** Deborah called the meeting to order at 7:42 pm. A roll call was done to establish that a quorum was present and that all could hear.
2. **Approval of Previous (February 2023) minutes:** February minutes were approved. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded.
3. **Approval of Agenda.** A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded.
4. **Public Comment:** Courtney Arroyo stated that she was currently working with the FOIA and County Attorney's Office to answer the question the board had at the last meeting regarding Community Connect, Fairfax Alerts, and Emergency Health Profile. She'll provide an update once she has more information.

Meeting Items:

a) Presentation on FY 2024 Advertised Budget

Claudia Vila and Karen Kelly provided an overview of the FY 2024 Advertised Budget. The budget chart is included as part of the March meeting packet.

b) FY 2024 Advertised Budget Testimony Discussion

Members asked a few clarifying questions as follow-up to the staff's presentation. Diane asked if staff knew whether the CSB received a budget increase to cover the difference between waiver rate increases and the CSB's reimbursement rates, which were currently lower than the waiver increase. Claudia stated that she was not aware but would reach out to CSB for an answer.

Sarah asked what the next steps were regarding the advertised budget. Claudia stated that the board of supervisors would hear from members of the community and county boards via budget testimony, there would be a budget mark-up process, and then a final budget would be voted on. Claudia stated that the county had a very handy timeline on the budget process on fairfaxcounty.gov, under "Budget."

Andrew asked if the board of supervisors normally adopted the advertised budget as-is or if there was room for some change. Claudia stated that the advertised budget provides a good idea of what might be funded but that the board of supervisors have, at times, made adjustments to the advertised budget.

The board decided to advocate on the following issues during upcoming budget testimony:

1. Support the extra staffing that is being proposed within Office of Elections,
2. Support the contract rate increases allocated to the Health and Human Services agencies, and
3. Support the Director of Diversion, Equity, and Inclusion being proposed within the Police Department.

Deborah made a motion for the DSB to accept the initiatives above. The motion was seconded.

c) Nominations Committee Discussion

Deborah asked that two members volunteer to be part of this year's nominations committee. Deborah reminded the board that members that were part of the committee.

would not be able to nominate themselves to the Executive Committee.

Robin and Debbie Cohen volunteered to serve. Claudia let them know she'd reach out to them both with next steps.

d) Board Initiatives- FY 2023

Regarding initiative four (4), Improved Regional Transportation and Parking Options, Robin provided an update to the Parking Redesigned initiative. She stated that there have been further discussions around this initiative, but nothing had been finalized. She'll share any future information with the board.

Regarding initiative six (6), Ensure the Needs of Residents with Disabilities are Met During the Pandemic, Brandis highlighted a suggestion from Ben about exploring how people with disabilities can get their needs met in alternative ways. Ben noted that it would be helpful to consider lessons learned from the Pandemic. Deborah suggested that this be an agenda item for the May meeting. Ben offered to help lead the discussion.

Regarding initiative ten (10), Disability Training for other DFS Boards, Claudia stated she was working with internal channels to get the funding for this training approved. Diane volunteered to assist Brandis with this initiative.

Regarding initiative twelve (12), Accessible Voting Spaces, Lindsay and Ben provided an update on the flyer they are currently putting together for the Office of Elections. Lindsay stated the Office of Elections has been very receptive to their suggestions and they were hopeful that the flyer would be finalized soon. It would hopefully be advertised on the Office of Elections page, as well as the Disability Rights and Resources page. Lindsay stated

that the DSB has been invited to provide voting testimonial via a short video which Office of Elections would incorporate in their Poll Workers' Training. Lindsay stated that Ben would like to be involved in the creation of the video, and asked if any other DSB member would like to volunteer to provide their testimonial. She asked that any volunteers reach out to Karen Kelly. Furthermore, Lindsay asked that any members who might be aware of existing voting videos pertaining to persons with disabilities to send them to Karen Kelly, so they can be shared with Office of Elections.

Regarding initiative thirteen (13), Supporting Building Code and Zoning Ordinance Compliance with ADA Title III, David shared that Virginia has state-specific amendments related to this issue. Fairfax County has a Public Facilities Manual in existence to guide information for members of the public. David is awaiting formal guidance from a county representative.

e) Ad Hoc Committees

Deborah stated that there is a vacancy on the Long-Term Coordinating Care Council and asked that a member volunteer. Claudia offered to email out the DSB Roster, which contains a list of all Ad Hoc Committees and respective vacancies.

Debbie provided an update on the Disability Inclusion in Volunteering, Volunteer Fairfax Committee. She stated that they are creating guides for members of the public.

Brandis reported on the Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities. They had a recent presentation conducted by a representative from the School Resource Officers.

f) General Updates

David shared a document related to accessible charging stations. Deborah asked if anyone knew whether electric charging stations had to provide access aisles. Claudia wondered if the requirement to provide accessible spaces depended on whether charging stations offered services for free. David stated that he had found an article on the subject and had emailed it to Deborah and Claudia.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sarah and seconded by Ben. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.