HEALTH CARE ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Summary
March 18, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT
Marlene Blum, Chairman
Rose Chu, Vice Chairman
Phil Beauchene
Tim Yarboro, MD
Rosanne Rodilosso
Dr. Michael Trahos, DO
Ann Zuvekas
Shikha Dixit

MEMBERS ABSENT
Bill Finerfrock, Vice Chairman
Ellyn Crawford

GUESTS
Dominic Bonaiuto, Director of Advocacy and Community Outreach, Inova Health System
Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu, MD, MPH, Health Director, Health Department
Rosalyn Foroobar, Deputy Director for Health Services, Health Department
Suzanne Lane, Fiscal Director, Health Department
Peggy Knight, Observer Corps Coordinator, League of Women Voters

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Marlene Blum at 7:34 pm.

February 11, 2019 Meeting Summary
The meeting summary from February 11, 2019 was approved as submitted.

Administrative
Marlene Blum recognized Rosalyn Foroobar’s attendance of her last HCAB meeting. The HCAB will meet her successor, Jessica Werder, at its April meeting. The HCAB thanked Ms. Foroobar for years of dedicated service.

FY 2020 Budget Recommendations
Dr. Tim Yarboro, HCAB Budget Chair, made the following motions seriatim regarding the FY 2020 Advertised Budget. Dr. Trahos, DO seconded.

The HCAB supports the County Executive’s proposed 5.6% net increase of $2,386,185 for the Health Department’s FY 2020 budget.

The HCAB supports the increase of $291,644 in Personnel Services and 3/3.0 FTE new positions to fully implement the Health Department’s Population Health Program.

The HCAB supports an increase of $243,433 and 2/2.0 FTE Public Health Nurses (PHNs) to meet increased training, mentoring, and ongoing clinical support requirements for students with chronic health conditions and/or complex health procedures.

The HCAB supports an increase of $167,872 to allow the Health Department to fill two existing Public Health Nurse positions that are part of the School Health Program.

The HCAB supports an increase of $130,660 in Operating Expenses to increase the number of contracted hours for Homeless Outreach Workers from 20 to 40 hours per week in order to expand capacity to conduct more street outreach and increase the team’s presence in the community.

The HCAB supports an increase of $100,068 and 1/1.0 FTE position to support the new Medical Respite program at the new Bailey’s Crossroads homeless shelter, which is scheduled to open in FY 2020.

The HCAB supports an increase of $80,196 and 1/1.0 FTE position to address the growing workload associated with the Rabies Program.

The HCAB supports an increase of $33,916 in Personnel Services to support the transfer of a benefits eligible position from the Office of Strategy Management for Health and Human Services to the Health Department to better align resources within the Health and Human Services System.

The HCAB supports the County Executive’s proposed 2.84% net increase of $5,168,905 for the Fire and Rescue Department’s FY 2020 budget.

The HCAB supports the increase of $2,028,925 to implement adjustments to the department’s organizational structure and pay plan, providing greater consistency in the department’s F-scale pay plan for uniformed personnel and including a shift differential
for 24-hour Fire and Rescue shifts in the base pay of uniformed personnel to align County pay practices for uniformed firefighters with those of other local jurisdictions.

The HCAB supports the increase of $419,037 in the Department of Vehicle Services’ charges for vehicle maintenance and operating-related charges.

The HCAB supports the proposed increase of $108,209 to fund Fairfax County’s proportion of the Northern Virginia Healthcare Center/Birmingham Green Adult Care Residence.

The HCAB supports the proposed funding of $237,000 for the Medical Care for Children Partnership (MCCP) to provide medical and dental care to children of the working poor in Fairfax County.

The HCAB supports the proposed funding of $108,200 for the Health Systems Agency of Northern Virginia, a regional body charged with coordinating and improving the health care system for Northern Virginia.

The HCAB supports an increase of 2/2/0 FTE new positions to address increased departmental and programmatic requirements of the Disease Carrying Insects Program.

The HCAB supports funding to implement the fourth year of the County’s successful Diversion First Initiative, a multiagency collaboration between the Police Department, Office of the Sheriff, Fire and Rescue Department, Fairfax County Court system, and the Community Services Board to reduce the number of people with mental illness in the County jail by diverting low-risk offenders experiencing a mental health crisis to treatment rather than bring them to jail.

The HCAB supports an increase of $1,233,646 and 6/6.0 FTE positions to include 2/2.0 FTE Crisis Intervention Specialists and 4/4/0 FTE Behavioral Health Specialists for the Jail-Diversion Team and to provide mental health case management services, as well as funding for housing assistance, medical screening, and specialty docket evaluation.

The HCAB supports an increase of $114,931 and 1/1.0 position to support diversion services at the Merrifield Crisis Response Center 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

The HCAB supports additional funding to implement the Fairfax County Opioid Task Force Plan to address the growing opioid epidemic. The Plan has the dual goals to reduce deaths from opioids through prevention, treatment, and harm reduction, as well as use data to describe the problem, target interventions, and evaluate effectiveness.
The HCAB supports an increase of $2,091,589 to provide medical detoxification services, to expand the use of Medication Assisted Treatment, and to provide Substance Abuse Prevention programming in FCPS.

The HCAB supports an increase of $531,957 and 5/5.0 FTE positions to implement the Fairfax County Opioid Task Force Plan.

The HCAB recommended increases for several areas from the Health and Human Services Resource Plan that did not receive funding in the County Executive’s FY 2020 Advertised Budget. HCAB members recommended that in its communication to the BOS, the Health Department’s School Health Program should be highlighted with funding for medically fragile students and improving School Health Nursing ratios prioritized.

The HCAB supports increased funding for the Health Department’s Medically Fragile Program to provide one-on-one nursing services for medically fragile students enrolled in FCPS.

The HCAB supports increased funding to improve the ratio of Public Health Nurses to students.

The HCAB supports funding to realign the School Health Program’s School Health Aide (SHA) position from a .64 FTE working 35 hours per week for 37 weeks plus 40 hours of required/recommended training and supplemental hours used to prepare for the beginning and ending of the school year to a .71 FTE to include the costs of annual leave accrual and holidays.

The HCAB supports funding to support the third year of a three-year phase-in plan to improve the Health Department’s capacity to monitor the health status of the community, use data in real time to guide new approaches to the delivery of population-based health services, and research new insights and innovative solutions to health problems within the community.

The HCAB supports funding for the Health Department to establish an Office of Administration to consolidate the HR and fiscal functions and to strengthen its infrastructure.
The HCAB supports funding to establish 1/1.0 FTE Environmental Health Services Program Manager to allow the Health Department to adequately prevent, respond, and minimize exposure to environmental health risks in the community.

The HCAB supports an increase of $2.0 million to support a multi-year process to gradually increase the annual contributions to the Large Apparatus Replacement Fund and the Ambulance Replacement Fund.

Dr. Yarboro moved an amendment that the HCAB oppose the proposed $500,000 in Contributory Funding for the Inova Translational Medicine Institute (ITMI). Dr. Trahos, DO seconded. The amendment passed 4Y-3N with 1 abstention. While the HCAB agreed to oppose funding, the board will express its support of ITMI’s research activities.

The HCAB adopted its FY 2020 budget recommendations in a 8-0 vote. The HCAB will send its recommendations in a memo to the BOS and will provide testimony at the April 10 public hearing. A copy of the HCAB’s budget recommendations will be shared with the Human Services Council.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.