

Human Services Council Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81042557383> with password HSC202!mtg,
or telephone 602-333-0032, 888-270-9936 (U.S. Toll Free), conference code 926143

HSC Members Present: Michele Menapace (Chair/Lee), Alis Wang (Vice Chair/Mason), Kevin Bell (At-Large), Steven Bloom (Dranesville), Robert Faherty (Lee), Christopher Falcon (Mason), Rev. Dr. Jerrold L. Foltz (Sully), Leah Ganssle (Sully), Tianja Grant (Providence), William Kogler (Springfield), Steven Lam (Springfield), Dr. Fatima Mirza (Dranesville), Adwoa Rey (Mt. Vernon), and Dr. Patrice Winter (Braddock).

HSC Members Excused: Dr. Gerald V. Poje (Hunter Mill) and Paul Thomas (Hunter Mill).

HSC Members Absent: Jeff Dannick (Braddock), Thomas Goodwin (Providence), and Martin Machowsky (At-Large).

Staff Present: Chris Leonard (Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services (HHS)), Daryl Washington (Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board), Sarah Allen (Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)), Jill Clark (NCS), and VeeVee Coleman (NCS).

Call to Order: HSC Chair Menapace called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Chair Menapace took attendance and made the requisite motions required for virtual meetings as part of Virginia FOIA compliance. Poje moved that each member's voice could be adequately heard by all participating members. It was seconded and carried.

Chair Menapace explained the need to conduct the HSC meeting electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has made it unsafe for the HSC and the public to physically assemble. The live video and audio Zoom meeting was accessible by computer or phone. Chair Menapace moved to approve conducting the meeting electronically. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried. Menapace moved for the necessity to move forward with all the matters discussed in tonight's meeting for the continuity and continuation of operations and the discharge of the HSC's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Approval of the Minutes: The April 18 meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. Faherty moved to approve the minutes and was seconded. The motion carried with noted corrections and one abstention by Winter.

Health and Human Services Updates: Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive for HHS, reported that the County's FY 2023 budget was passed. During mark-up, the Board of Supervisors added \$825,000 for HHS contract rate increases and \$10 million for affordable housing. He noted that the HSC's budget presentation to the Board was well-received. He referenced the three Board memos (NIPs) that he shared recently about Sponsoring Partnerships and Revitalizing Communities (SPARC) funds from Virginia Housing, the 2022 Point-in-Time Count of People Experiencing Homelessness, and the 2022 Nonprofit Sustainability Grants.

Presentation on the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Service Board (CSB): Daryl Washington, executive director of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB), provided an update on CSB services and the psychiatric hospital bed crisis. The presentation highlighted trends on service utilization, outpatient time to treatment, waiting lists, and service capacity.

Washington reported that there is a psychiatric bed crisis in Fairfax with adults and youth experiencing a crisis waiting eight or more hours for a psychiatric bed daily. Due to state law, if a bed is not available within 72 hours,

a person under a temporary detention order (TDO) can no longer be held. This trend is going up and is exacerbated by individuals from other parts of the state under a TDO who are transported to Northern Virginia for emergency services.

A heatmap was shared that illustrates by zip code areas where Fairfax County provided the highest per capita emergency services in 2021. He shared data that track individuals that wait in local emergency rooms under psychiatric boarding.

Washington answered questions about how CSB is responding to the influx of cases from out-of-state, how to solve shortage of beds, and prioritization of Fairfax County residents and explained why some clients cannot be served at the Merrifield location. He also answered questions regarding suicide prevention among youth.

They are exploring a partnership with George Mason University to make their intern programs more robust to help with coverage. Washington will get data regarding youth suicide rates, and he recommended that the Council reach to Department of Family Services for data on domestic violence.

Member Sharing: Chair Menapace reported on behalf of Poje that the Affordable Housing Advisory Council will meet on May 20. The Dominion Square West project for the development of 175 affordable homes was launched. In addition, the Lamb Center and Wesley Housing have partnered to build housing for those who are experiencing homeless in the City of Fairfax.

Chair's Report: Menapace announced that Lanita Thweatt has resigned from the HSC and she will need to appoint a new HSC member to the Successful Children and Youth Policy Team. She reported that the Consolidated Community Funding Pool FY 2023-2024 awards were announced.

Adjournment: Menapace adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Minutes captured by Coleman.