

Human Services Council Meeting Minutes

December 19, 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), Kevin Bell (At-Large), Martin Machowsky (At-Large), Robert Faherty (Lee), Christopher Falcon (Mason), Rev. Dr. Jerrold L. Foltz (Sully), Thomas Goodwin (Providence), Dr. Fatima Mirza (Dranesville), Dr. Gerald V. Poje (Hunter Mill), Adwoa Rey (Mt. Vernon), Paul Thomas (Hunter Mill), and Dr. Patrice Winter (Braddock).

HSC Members Excused: Alis Wang (Vice Chair/Mason).

HSC Members Absent: Steven Bloom (Dranesville), Leah Ganssle (Sully), William Kogler (Springfield), and Steven Lam (Springfield).

Staff Present: Sarah Allen (Neighborhood and Community Services [NCS]), Jill Clark (NCS), and Viola Coleman (NCS).

Call to Order: Human Services Council (HSC) Chair Menapace called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Chair Menapace took attendance and made the requisite motions required for virtual meetings as part of Virginia FOIA compliance.

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 November 2022 meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. Foltz moved to approve the minutes and was seconded. The motion carried.

Health and Human Services Updates: Sarah Allen, Deputy Director for NCS, provided the monthly update on behalf of Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services. She reported that most COVID-19 community testing locations have been closed, as well as the County's vaccination centers due to low turnout. Community members may contact the Fairfax County Health Department's COVID-19 call center if they need assistance with obtaining a test or vaccine.

Allen announced that over 200 applications were submitted for the 2022 Nonprofit Sustainability Grant program. Applications were reviewed for eligibility and 192 have been approved for funding. Disbursements are expected to begin soon.

Allen encouraged members to watch the recording of the November 22, 2022 Board of Supervisors Housing Committee meeting through the County's [BOS Committee Meetings Video Archive](#). Tom Barnett, Deputy Director of Housing & Community Development, presented on new strategies that are being considered for homeless services. In January, Chris Leonard will share additional details about the FY 2024 advertised budget that will be released on February and share more about the new HHS Resource Plan process.

State Budget and 2023 General Assembly Preview: Jill Clark, Senior HHS Policy & Program Analyst for NCS, reported that the General Assembly will convene for its annual session on January 11, 2023. The balance of

power will be the same as last year's session, but every seat is up for election in November. There also will be changes due to redistricting.

Clark shared that bills are being pre-filed and common themes include parental involvement/consent with education, reproductive health, and behavioral health. This past Thursday, Governor Youngkin released his budget proposal. She reported that behavioral health received a lot of attention and new funding, particularly related to crisis care. No additional funds were proposed for affordable housing in this budget. On January 5, there will be a virtual state budget hearing for residents to provide input.

Starting on January 20, 2023, the BOS Legislative Committee will be meeting every Friday at 4 p.m. at the Government Center. She will provide updates on HHS-related legislation on a regular basis to the HSC.

Planning for FY 2024 County Budget Input: Chair Menapace reviewed the FY 2024 fiscal forecast that was presented at the recent BOS Budget Policy Committee meeting. The Council discussed possible items to include in their budget testimony, including affordable housing, youth mental health, employee compensation, securing anticipated additional federal resources, repurposing office space, and support for nonprofits. Additionally, Chair Menapace asked for a volunteer to chair the Budget Committee.

Member Sharing: Paul Thomas reported that the most recent Successful Children & Youth Policy Team's meeting took place at the new Sully Community Center. Meeting highlights included the Children's Behavioral Health Plan and a presentation on the Early Childhood Family Partnership Framework.

Marty Machowsky provided an update on the Commission on Aging and the extensive efforts related to community input for the SHAPE the Future of Aging plan. He suggested that the HSC may want to have a presentation on that initiative next year.

Patrice Winter reported that she met with the NCS staff working on the HHS Innovation Challenge Fund last week and that staff plan to release the Request for Proposals in the first part of 2023. There will be \$200,000 available for small businesses and nonprofits for proposals related to economic mobility.

Jerry Poje shared that the Affordable Housing Advisory Council met last week and included a Budget Committee presentation by Joe Mondoro about the County's budget process, who is the former Fairfax County Chief Financial Officer. He will have the link to that presentation circulated.

Chair's Report: Menapace noted that the 2023 meeting calendar was included in the meeting packet and will help members keep track of deadlines, key dates, and discussion topics. She reminded members that in the spring they will need to form a nominating committee to elect new officers. She also reminded members of the criticality in them attending other HHS BAC meeting to stay informed, particularly on budget priorities.

Adjournment: Chair Menapace adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Minutes captured by Coleman.