

**Fairfax County Human Services Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 17, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**

**Location:** (primary) Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 11, Fairfax, VA. Three members participated remotely via Zoom.

A quorum of the Human Services Council members were physically assembled at the physical meeting location with nine members present. Christopher Falcon, Jerrold Foltz, and Thomas Goodwin were unable to physically attend the meeting and were granted remote participation.

**HSC Members Present:** Kevin Bell (At-Large), Robert Faherty (Franconia), Steven Lam (Springfield), Martin Machowsky (At-Large), Michele Menapace (Chair/Franconia), Dr. Gerald V. Poje (Hunter Mill), Maria Posey (Braddock), Paul Thomas (Hunter Mill), Dr. Patrice Winter (Braddock), and Edward Yost (Sully). Christopher Falcon (Mason), Rev. Dr. Jerrold L. Foltz (Sully), Thomas Goodwin (Providence) participated via remote participation.

**HSC Members Excused:** Steven Bloom (Dranesville), William Kogler (Springfield), and Alis Wang (Vice Chair/Mason).

**HSC Members Absent:** Adwoa Rey (Mount Vernon)

**Staff Present:** Chris Leonard (Deputy County Executive for HHS), Sarah Allen (Department of Neighborhood and Community Services [NCS]), Jill Clark (NCS), and Viola Coleman (NCS).

**Call to Order:** Human Services Council Chair Menapace called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The February 27 and March 20, 2023 meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. Bell moved to approve the minutes and was seconded. The motion carried.

**Health and Human Services Monthly Update:** Chris Leonard, Deputy County Executive for Health and Human Services (HHS), reminded the Council of the recent memo (i.e., NIP) sent to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) about a housing stability pilot project, which is currently in the design stage. He said that some of the American Rescue Plan Act funds will be used toward the economic mobility pilot project. Goodwin shared that the County is the 45<sup>th</sup> municipality of this size carrying out this type of initiative and it is within framework of what the Council had envisioned for the HHS Innovation Fund. Leonard also reported that there was overwhelming support for our nonprofit partners and for HHS agencies during last week's budget hearings. The BOS will adopt the budget on May 9.

**HSC's FY 2024 Advertised Budget Recommendations:** HSC Budget Committee Chair, Paul Thomas, reported that the presentation to the BOS went well and they asked some good questions. In addition, he received positive feedback from two individual BOS members at a separate meeting.

Menapace reported that she recommended that one of the BOS members speak directly to the organizations regarding their questions about contract rates and staffing. She also suggested that the Board read the Community Action Advisory Board quarterly reports that provide more information on retention.

**HSC Meeting Schedule for In-Person and All-Virtual Meetings:** When moving forward, to reduce the risk of not meeting a quorum due to the emergency declaration being lifted that requires in-person meetings, the Council confirmed that the start time should remain at 7 p.m. Additionally, it was decided to conduct two meetings per year virtually in August and December. Thomas suggested that the HSC bylaws be updated to reflect this change. Poje motioned to follow the Health Care Advisory Board's position on asking the Board to address the Government Center conference rooms technology and accessibility deficiencies. It was seconded. The motion carried.

**Member Sharing:** Thomas reported that at the recent Successful Children and Youth Policy Team meeting, updates were provided on the Multi-Tiered Evaluation of the Community Schools Initiative and the Early Development Instrument that geographically measures school readiness. Poje said the Affordable Housing Advisory Council Executive Committee will meet Friday to review the budget and their budget testimony. They are focusing on how to approach carryover and will review legislative achievements in Richmond. There will also be discussion on doing a regional assessment of Fair Housing. Machowsky stated that the County initiative SHAPE the Future of Aging Plan will be reviewed by the Board and adopted at an upcoming meeting. Menapace reported that the Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee (CCFAC) held a public hearing for input on the funding categories that will be included in the next cycle of the Consolidated Community Funding Pool. She noted that home sharing was added as a CCFAC category to possibility generate the interest of nonprofits and the public.

**Adjournment:** Chair Menapace adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

*Minutes captured by Coleman.*