

**HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2019
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Rockville City Hall**

Members Present:

Ciriaco Gonzales, At-large Member, Chair
Andrew Buchholz, At-large Member
Stacey Erd, Caregiver Member
Jen Lafferty, At-large Member

Mark Pascu, At-large Member
Emily Pearce, At-large Member
Leon Suskin, At-large Member

Members Absent:

Akena Allen, At-large Member
Laurie Gira, Caregiver Member

Deborah Moore, Consumer Member
Nancy Sushinsky, Caregiver Member

Staff Present:

Carlos Aparicio, Community Service Manager
Sarah Dickinson, Community Services Program Analyst

Re: Call Meeting to Order

Ciriaco Gonzales, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:49 p.m.

Re: Community Forum

No discussion.

Re: New Member Introduction

The following new at-large commission members introduced themselves: Emily Pearce, Andrew Buchholz, and Mark Pascu.

Re: Approve January 8, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Andrew Buchholz, at-large representative, moved that the minutes be approved as drafted, and Mark Pascu, at-large representative, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Re: Community Services Division Report

Carlos Aparicio, Community Service Manager, provided the following updates regarding the Community Services Division:

- Carlos will send the commission members information on upcoming *Rockville Goes Purple* opioid prevention events.
- The *caregiver grant review panel* convened and arrived at recommendations for FY 2020 grant funding to the City Manager.
- The Mayor and Council recognized major donors to the *Rockville Holiday Drive* at their meeting on January 28. Carlos and Sarah Dickinson, Community Services Program Analyst, provided additional background about the Holiday Drive to the new members.

Re: Caregiver Task Force Report

Mark Pascu, at-large member and chairperson of the Caregiver Funding Task Force, informed the commission of the task force’s purpose and background. The task force is scheduled to present its report and recommendations to the Mayor and Council in May. Carlos Aparicio, Community Services Manager, recommended that new commission members review the Montgomery County Office of Legislative Oversight’s report on the county’s community grants process

(https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OLO/Resources/Files/2018%20Reports/OLORReport2018_9.pdf).

Re: Polystyrene Legislation

Carlos Aparicio, Community Services Manager, provided the commission with background on bans on plastic straws, which have proved problematic for some with disabilities who require a plastic straw and businesses such as bubble tea vendors. Councilmember Beryl Feinberg had requested that the commission weigh in on the issue from a human services perspective. Mark Charles, the city’s Chief of Environmental Management, will attend the March HSAC meeting to provide additional information.

Re: Caregiver Site Visit Scheduling

Sarah Dickinson, Community Services Program Analyst, informed commission members that she will be scheduling the remaining site visits to caregiver grantee programs for the remainder of FY 2019 prior to her leaving the city on March 1. She will send out the site visit schedule and requested that commission members respond with those they would like to attend.

Re: Old Business

- **FY 2020 City of Rockville Budget Process:** Carlos Aparicio, Community Services Manager, informed the commission that the City Manager’s recommended budget will be released on February 27, and public budget hearings are scheduled for March 4 and April 15.
- **Montgomery Cares Advocacy Update:** Carlos informed the commission that the Mayor and Council will consider the Montgomery Cares issue at their March 4 meeting, taking into account Montgomery County’s perspective and feedback from relevant experts from the health leadership council.
- **Human Services Advocacy Strategy:** Carlos asked that commission members provide him with their personal areas of interest in human services.

Re: Other Items

No discussion.

Re: Plan Agenda for March 12, 2019 Meeting

- Polystyrene legislation presentation by Mark Charles, Chief of Environmental Management
- FY 2020 City of Rockville budget
- Caregiver site visits
- Human services advocacy strategy
- Montgomery Cares advocacy update

- Caregiver task force update

Re: Adjourn

Leon Suskin, at-large member, moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Andrew Buchholz, at-large member, seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.