

ST. JOHNS COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL (HHSAC)
MEETING MINUTES
July 21, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Daly, Chair; Tara Haley, Vice Chair; Chip Cover; Shannon Nazworth; Kathleen Patneau

MEMBERS ABSENT: Howard Hitzel; Lorraine Keith

STAFF PRESENT: Shawna Novak, Director, Health & Human Services; Joseph Cone, Assistant Director, Health & Human Services; Katrina Tanner, Contract Coordinator, Social Services; Mary Garcia, Administrative Coordinator, Social Services

BCC LIASON: Commissioner Sarah Arnold – sent regrets
Sarah Taylor – Assistant County Administrator – sent regrets

VISITORS: In person – Noreen Nickola-Williams; Catherine Doyle
Via Zoom – Michael Hartman; Michael Henzy; Judi Dembowski; Sharon Gesek; Kelly Franklin; Dawn Bell; Debi Redding; Patti Greenough; Schuyler Siefker; Kelsey Wainwright; Brian Robinson; Emma Hayes; Austin Burns; Noah Duncan; Sandi Jackson; Lisa Franklin

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: Chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Quorum was present.

MINUTES – May, 2022 (no June meeting): Shannon Nazworth **motioned** to approve the May, 2022, general meeting minutes. Tara Haley seconded the motion; minutes **approved unanimously** by the Council.

REPORT FROM COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Commissioner Arnold was unable to attend and sent her regrets.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **Continuum of Care (CoC) Update:** Austin Burns reported on staffing changes and introduced Noah Duncan, Community Impact Coordinator. Mr. Burns also extended an invitation to the CoC general meeting, scheduled to take place on August 10th, at 9:45am.
- b) **Update: San Marcos Heights/Victoria Crossing:** Michael Henzy, Smith & Henzy Affordable Group, provided an update on the progress of the San Marcos Heights development and shared some aerial photos of the site. Mr. Henzy said the first two buildings, which make up approximately 60 units, are fully pre-leased and he said the third building is approximately 1/3 pre-leased. Mr. Henzy said the development is projected to be fully complete in mid-September, 2022, with a ribbon cutting ceremony to be scheduled shortly thereafter.

Michael Hartman, Turnstone Development, provided an update on the Victoria Crossing project and stated it is 56% complete. Mr. Hartman went on to share

the anticipated dates of certificate of occupancy for each building, with the first expected to be ready in mid-December, and the fourth and final building ready by early February, 2023. Mr. Hartman stated they have had an overwhelming response to their pre-leasing call-in phone line, with 95 people registering for 1 bedroom units, 90 people registering for 2 bedroom units, and 79 people registering for 3 bedroom units. Mr. Hartman stated the County's Social Services Department will be leasing an office in the clubhouse for \$1 per year in order to have staff on-site to provide case management and credit counseling services to residents.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **New Member Welcome:** Chair Charles Daly welcomed new member Kathleen Patneau and commented that her extensive background in behavioral health will be a valuable asset to the Council.
- b) **Independent Agency Funding: Public Comment:** None.
- c) **Independent Agency Funding – Preliminary Scoring:** Contract Coordinator for Health & Human Services, Katrina Tanner, explained that the scoring committee consisted of three HHSAC members, the St. Johns County Social Services Manager, and a representative from the United Way. Ms. Tanner stated each evaluator scored all 19 applications received through the eCivis portal. Ms. Tanner said 10 applications were submitted under the Community Healthcare funding category, 7 applications under the Affordable Housing and Homelessness category, and 2 applications were submitted under the Employment Opportunities category, with a total funding request equaling \$3,075,723. Ms. Tanner then presented total scores in each category, alphabetically by agency name. A PowerPoint was provided to Council members and it was also shown on the screen to all in-person and Zoom attendees. Discussion ensued. Mr. Cover asked if specific percentages are allotted to each of the three categories and Ms. Novak said no specific dollar amount has been allocated per category. Ms. Novak stated the next step would be the development of funding recommendations by County staff for presentation to the Advisory Council at their executive meeting on August 4th and she explained some of the different factors that will be considered when developing those recommendations. Ms. Novak went on to say that once a vote has been taken at the August 4th meeting, a letter to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) detailing the Council's recommendation will be prepared for signature by the Chair at their August 18th meeting. Ms. Novak stated funding recommendations and contracts will be presented to the BCC on October 4th, after the final FY23 budget is approved and adopted by the Commission in September. Ms. Tanner offered copies of score sheets should anyone want to see them and she also offered to meet with individuals after the blackout period should they have any questions. Appreciation was expressed by staff and by Council members for all evaluators and for Ms. Tanner's administration of the process.

REPORT FROM SARAH TAYLOR, ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Sarah Taylor was unable to attend this meeting and sent her regrets.

FUNDED AGENCY UPDATES: No updates were allowed due to the required blackout period for the current independent agency funding RFP.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

Homeless Advocacy Council: No representative in attendance.

SMA Healthcare: Sandi Jackson stated she had nothing new to report.

Department of Health: Noreen Nickola-Williams reported the state has contracted with Nestle due to the shortage of Similac formula and she asked that any parents on WIC experiencing difficulty in obtaining formula be referred to the Department of Health (DOH). Ms. Nickola-Williams went on to say that since Dr. Allicock's retirement, DOH has been interviewing for her replacement and they have narrowed the field down to three candidates. Ms. Nickola-Williams also spoke about Monkey Pox and said there are currently no known cases in St. Johns County.

Flagler Health +: Noah Duncan spoke about upcoming Flagler Health + Bus events and also advised the bus is scheduled for maintenance in mid-August so there will be a brief hiatus during that time.

Health & Human Services Department: Shawna Novak talked about increased funding coming to community based care from the state and explained that with those funds come additional staffing and program requirements. Ms. Novak stated St. Johns is the only county in Florida to have a contract with the state to provide child welfare services. Ms. Novak stated she and Joe Cone have been working with architects on renovation of the wing of the building recently vacated by SMA Healthcare, and she stated this will be taken over by Health & Human Services to accommodate new staff. Mr. Cone stated he has been working with County Administration on an agenda item for the August 2nd BCC meeting regarding the possible formation of a public housing authority in the County. Mr. Cone said he has also been working with the West Augustine Community Redevelopment Association steering committee in an effort to designate a large portion of vacant parcels in that community as affordable housing and this matter will also be an item on the August 2nd BCC agenda. Finally, Ms. Novak stated the County's Social Services Department has seen an uptick in requests for rental and utility assistance over the past two months and she attributed some of this to the CoC's brief gap in funding with the beginning of the new fiscal year and contract signing.

Faith Based Community: No representative in attendance.

Public Safety: Chip Cover said lifeguards on the beach have been very busy with rescues this year and he encouraged people not to swim in unguarded sections of the beach and to be very wary of riptides. Ms. Nickola-Williams added some information regarding algae blooms and she advised caution when swimming and fishing in certain areas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Executive Meeting: Thursday, August 4, at 3:30 p.m., Kingfisher conference room, 200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL.

Regular Meeting: Thursday, August 18, at 4:00 p.m., Kingfisher conference room, 200 San Sebastian View, St. Augustine, FL.

ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.