

Tidewater Youth Services Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2022

Attending: Dr. Cynthia Blakeslee, Ms. Katherine Grimm, Ms. Beth St. John, Ms. Kimberly Jennings, Mr. Rusty Jordan, Mr. Harry Cromer & Mr. Carl Faison

Not attending: Ms. Olymphina Perkins

Staff: Ms. Jenny Hodge, Ms. Vicki Hubbard

Guests: None

Call to Order: The Chair, Katherine Grimm, called the March 7, 2022 meeting of the Tidewater Youth Services Commission to order at 11:35 a.m.

I. Review of the previous meeting minutes:

The minutes of the March 7, 2022 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the minutes as recorded by Ms. Jennings and was seconded by Mr. Jordan. The motion was carried.

II. Items Carried Forward:

A. Tidewater Youth Services Foundation

Ms. Hodge reported the Foundation capital campaign has updated the goal amount to \$250,000 due to improvements that are needed at the facilities. The Foundation Board will begin working on this campaign in the Spring.

The next fundraiser is scheduled for April 26-27 and is the second annual Maker's Kraft Love of Beer Fundraiser. This will be an in person beer tasting off of Granby St. in Norfolk. They are hoping to sell 70 tickets. There will also be a virtual option and tickets will be \$40 per person or \$70 for two. The consultant is hoping that this will be a \$10,000 fundraiser by using sponsors for the event.

B. Tidewater Youth Service Commission Update:

Ms. Hodge asked that the board send thank you notes to the staff for their dedication and passed out thank you notes for board members to sign.

Ms. Hodge also stated that she has officially hired a deputy director. The new Deputy Director is Mr. William Wimbish, currently the Director of the Apartment Living Program. William also held the position of Assistant Director for Westhaven in the past and has worked at the Commission for 10 years. He will begin his new position on 3/14/22. He will be doing "double duty" until a replacement for the position of Apartment Living Director can be filled. The selection process was two rounds of interviews. The first round was 12 questions – the total score was averaged and the top 2 were given second interviews to include giving a presentation.

VJCCCA report was turned in on 3/4/22, the plan will going to the Director this week.

Currently, Mr. Wimbush is building a partnership with Tidewater Community College's Associate Degree program for youth in the programs. He is also trying to tackle the staffing issues in the Commission.

C. Items from Members or Staff: None

III. New Business

A. Financials

Ms. Hubbard stated that the financials are looking better. They were able to terminate the services of contractors that were charging for services that were not rendered.

Logic II is the new IT Company working with the Commission. Because of the transition, the audit has had to be pushed back.

Mr. Jordan asked for a summary of the services that are being used for all of the localities. The Board also discussed the fact that currently parenting classes are not being utilized and there was a discussion among the Directors about the issues trying to engage parents to participate in these classes. There was also a discussion about how dealing with the pandemic has limited the use of services to youth over the past 2 years and the hope that program use will soon return to normal.

Ms. Hubbard and Ms. Hodge stated that the Commission has lost some staff and is trying to recruit at this time. They are currently making decisions about what services are essential during this particular period of time. The board also discussed making long range changes to the plan to make the Commission more effective and efficient.

Ms. Hubbard stated that cash flow is good and the Commission is currently fiscally healthy.

Ms. Jennings asked about the increase in pay that was voted on in the last budget for employees and Ms. Hubbard stated that the pay increase was instituted last year.

Ms. Hubbard also stated that Anthem costs will be going up by 20%.

- B.** Motion to go into closed session to consider personnel issues was made by Katherine Grimm at 12:40pm. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth St. John. The roll call vote was unanimous in the affirmative. A motion was made to come out of closed session. The roll call vote was unanimous in the affirmative and the Board came out of closed session at 1:18 pm.

C. Items from Members or Staff: None

- D. Adjournment:** There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 1:18 pm. All board members were in agreement and the meeting was adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth F. St. John

Elizabeth F. St. John
Secretary/Treasurer
Tidewater Youth Services Commission Board