

Macon County Social Services Board

November 22, 2019

Minutes

Call to Order

Patrick Betancourt called the regular meeting of the Macon County Social Services Board to order. Members in attendance were: Lisa Leatherman, Anne Hyder, Evelyn Southard, Patrick Betancourt, Secretary to the Board and Cathy Makinson, Business Officer designated to record minutes.

Minutes

October minutes were approved on motion by Anne Hyder and second by Evelyn Southard.

Program Reports

No Program Reports this month.

Financials

Business Officer, Cathy Makinson updated the Board on the meals contract for Senior Services with HCA. We still do not have an executed contract and have had difficulty communicating with hospital personnel who may be able to connect us with legal and finance staff at Mission. Cathy also reported since the Crisis Program was opened, \$30,000 has been obligated. DSS continues to see low demand for assistance even with the cold temperatures. LIEAP assistance will begin Monday, December 2nd and Crisis will open to all income eligible households.

Old Business

Patrick updated the Board on Medicaid Transformation which was scheduled to be rolled out in February, 2020. DSS was informed that since the state budget had not passed, that effective this week, Medicaid Transformation would be suspended indefinitely. Clients will continue to receive the same benefit and will not be required to choose one of four Health Plans. We still have an on-site enrollment specialist through Maximus through November 27th. The call center will be active through December 13th.

Patrick reported on the County Commissioners' Meeting on November 12th when discussion was held with Moseley Architects on the space needs analysis. Their recommendations in order are, a new justice center, renovating county administrative offices and in the future, but not pressing, are the renovations to the Human Services Building which includes moving the dental clinic to on-site. Moseley evaluated the Senior Services Center and, in their opinion, felt accessibility and parking were the main concerns and suggested an off-site park and ride solution.

New Business

Patrick made the Board aware of a threat the prior week to Haywood County DSS. He reminded the Board of the recent security walkthrough of DSS by the Sheriff's Department. A Security Assessment Report was completed by Don Willis which Patrick forwarded to County Leadership for review. DSS has begun putting some security measures in place but some of the more expensive improvements will need to be addressed through County finances and not DSS. After the threat, Leadership felt it was incumbent upon them to update the Safety Plan. Homeland Security has a template that is being used to develop our local plan, working with the Sheriff's Department to make sure it is in-line with their suggestions. On Wednesday of this week, the Sheriff's Department presented on building security at our all staff meeting and what to expect in an active threat. They had several suggestions to help better secure the building. Yesterday all staff met in groups to review a Homeland Security video which showed options in an active threat including the Run, Hide, Fight strategy. A second video on the lock-down magnets was reviewed, followed by discussion with staff which included suggestions to assist with making the building more secure as well as developing individual plan in the event of a lockdown. Several measures mentioned in the Safety Plan have been implemented including video monitoring and replacing front

glass in reception area. Staff will be meeting more regularly and completing drills so responses are second nature in an event of a lockdown/threat. Patrick will be stressing to the County Leadership the need to include some of the more expensive but needed safety measures in the capital improvement plan they are developing.

Closed Session

Anne Hyder made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss personnel information as allowed under G.S. 143-318.11. Lisa Leatherman seconded, and motion carried.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is rescheduled from Wednesday, December 18th, 2019, to Friday, December 20th at 9:30am in the Administrative Conference Room at the Human Services Building.

APPROVED BY:

Chairman | Date

Secretary | Date