

**Wake County Human Services Board
Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2018**

Board Members Present:

Dr. Betsy Van Benthuyzen
John Myhre
Stephanie Treadway
Mayor Frank Eagles
Dr. James Smith, III
Dr. John Perry
Dr. Patrice O'Connell
Fiorella Horna
Angie Welsh
David Cottengim
Commissioner James West
McKinley Wooten
Dr. Randy Marsh

Guests Present:

None

Staff Members Present:

Antonia Pedroza
Ken Murphy
Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey
Paige Rosemond
Debra Baker
Dr. Sue Lynn Ledford
Dr. Joseph Threadcraft
Dr. Kim McDonald
Heather Miranda
Dr. Patricia Coleman
Caroline Harper
Elizabeth Scott
Patricia Chandler
David Ellis

Call to Order

Chair Dr. James Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35am.

Reflections

Commissioner James West spoke about the Danny Thomas St. Jude's Children's Research hospital and spoke about bridging the bond of human capital with programs for young people such as child subsistence or child protection and that there was nothing worthier than child protection. Commissioner West then read the Bridge Builder written by a woman author named Will Allen. He read the poem and aligned it with the work that we do at Human Services for children.

Chairs Privilege

Chair Dr. James Smith reminded Board members that due to the Thanksgiving holiday the November Board meeting would be a week early, held on November 15th.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Dr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the September 27, 2018 meeting minutes. Mr. David Cottengim motioned and was seconded by Ms. Stephanie Treadway. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Next Board Meeting – November 15, 2018

Human Services Board New Member Oath of Office

(Presented by Dr. James Smith and Mr. Kenneth Murphy)

Mr. Kenneth Murphy administered the Oath of Office to new Board member Dr. Patrice O'Connell and photos were taken. Dr. Smith then presented a plaque to outgoing Board member Dr. Seth Wexler for his time on the Human Services Board.

Human Services Board Officer Elections

(Presented by Dr. James Smith and Mr. Kenneth Murphy)

Mr. Murphy began by opening the floor for nominations for the Human Services Board Chair. There were three nominations for Dr. Smith and Mr. Murphy asked if there were any other nominations at this time. There were no other nominations and a move was made to close nominations and it was seconded. Mr. Murphy asked for a vote and Dr. Smith was unanimously voted in as the Human Services Board Chair.

Dr. Smith then proceeded with Vice Chair nominations and announced two nominations for Ms. Angie Welsh and one nomination for Mayor Frank Eagles. Mayor Eagles withdrew his nomination due to his term limit. Mayor Eagles moved to close the nominations and it was seconded. Dr. Smith asked for a vote and Ms. Angie Welsh was unanimously voted in as the Human Services Board Vice Chair.

Dr. Smith then proceeded with the Board Treasurer nominations. There were two nominations for Ms. Margaret Raynor. Dr. Smith asked for a vote and Ms. Margert Raynor was unanimously voted in as the Human Services Board Treasurer.

Public Health Fee Schedule and Sliding Scale [PH Accreditation Benchmark #39.3]

(Presented by Ms. Heather Miranda)

Ms. Miranda stated that the policy was previously reviewed at an earlier Board meeting but that there had been changes made after a recent audit. She then reviewed the following edits:

- Section II.A.1: Added: The Wake County Board of Commissioners has delegated review and approval of this fee setting plan to Wake County Human Services Board.
- Section II.B.11: Added: All skilled nursing home visits, childbirth education and parenting classes will be provided to sliding fee patients at no charge.
- Section II.B.15 Added: Patients receiving confidential medical services will not be sent to collections at any time.
- Section III.D: Added Definitions: Confidential Patients: are defined as services provided to:
 - a. The primary holder of the patient's or client's healthcare insurance is not aware of the service(s) being provided. (Patient's/client's insurance cannot be billed because).
 - b. Patients/clients who might have their information mistakenly shared with other individuals who share and/or have access to some demographic information listed in the client's chart e.g. phone numbers and mailing address.

- c. Teen (or some adult situations) receiving family planning or STD services without the knowledge of their parents or significant other.

Ms. Fiorella asked for clarification of the changes in Section III.D, the definition of confidential patients. Ms. Miranda went through the definitions and explained that these definitions were provided to the County from the auditors.

Chair Dr. Smith asked for a motion that the Board has reviewed and approved the changes. He also asked that the wording of Section III.D be reviewed by legal counsel as noted by Ms. Fiorella. Mr. Myhre motioned and was seconded by Mayor Eagles. The Board voted unanimously to accept the changes.

At this time Chair Dr. Smith recognized Ms. Pat Chandler, Wake County Human Services Senior Case Manager, for receiving the 2018 Governor's Wayne Daves Award for Outstanding Achievement in Workforce Development. There was a video clip shown of Ms. Chandler and what she has accomplished then the Board Chair, Commissioner West, and County Manager David Ellis joined staff and Ms. Chandler for a photo.

Wake County Human Services Fourth Quarter Data Report

(Presented by Dr. Patricia Coleman and Ms. Caroline Harper)

Ms. Caroline Harper reviewed the Fourth Quarter data report and discussed several highlights of the report. Ms. Harper pointed out the data for Child Welfare and asked Ms. Paige Rosemond if she had anything she wanted to report. Ms. Rosemond spoke about upcoming legislative changes in funding associated with out of home care and how funds will be able to be used. She spoke about these changes broadening the scope so that Child Welfare can engage with these families sooner. Mr. David Ellis asked what the unification rate is, and Ms. Rosemond stated that it fluctuates between 11-20% and stated that this is an area that Wake County needs to improve upon. There are things being put in place to try to raise this number. Mr. Ellis then asked that the unification information be included in future reports. Ms. Coleman stated that there are changes being made to this report and the data included and that this will be included in future reports. Mr. Ellis then asked about the length of stay for children in the foster care program. Ms. Rosemond stated that this is another area that Child Welfare is focusing on. There are different requirements and the State says to reunify within 365 days, and for custody or guardianship it turns into 18 months and adoption within 24 months. We are exceeding the expectation in guardianship and custody but with reunification we are at about five hundred days and adoption is at about one thousand days. There is a lot of focus on reunification and adoption, there is a lot more specific recruitment for foster parents and a push to recruit prospective adoptive parents before there is a need. Ms. Rosemond also reported that the Wake House that was a group home used for emergency foster child care is being changed into a visitation center. This will be a home that will be able to provide extended daytime visits, so parents will be able to visit for multiple hours on evenings and weekends as well as staff supported overnight visits. This is where parents can show the parenting skills they have learned as well as give them longer visits with their children.

Ms. Harper then went on to discuss a major highlight of the report, the increase in services at the Western Regional Center. Between the previous November and the end of the fiscal year there were 749 individuals served and each quarter the services have increased and are sustaining. Dr. Ledford stated that 23% of these individuals are new individuals.

Ms. Harper reviewed the end of year case counts and noted that this is a new table that the Human Services Board had requested be added to the report. Ms. Harper explained how to read the information and then reviewed some of the data and pointed out a few changes.

Ms. Harper then went on to review the data in the end of year report that shows case counts for programs. She pointed out that the data is based on individuals except for the Food and Nutrition Services that shows families are counted as household units.

Mr. Ellis asked about the increase in communicable diseases, specifically the past decrease of Gonorrhea and asked if that was still the case. Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey stated that this is not the case and that we are seeing an uptick in cases in the 15-24-year-old population.

Chair Dr. Smith asked for a motion to accept the report and Mr. David Cottengim motioned and Ms. Stephanie Treadway seconded. The report was unanimously accepted.

Public Health Report: Injury Prevention [Accreditation Benchmark #2.4]

(Presented by Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey)

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey discussed how data is gathered for the report and proceeded to review the report. Information about the many types of injuries is complex and is gathered from several data sources such as death certificates, medical examiner reports, law enforcement reports, hospital admissions and emergency department visits. This report describes injuries and their impact on the health of those who live, work, play and learn in Wake County. Deaths are the most severe outcome from injuries but are the “tip of the iceberg” when evaluating the burden of injuries. Many injuries are not reported as they are either treated by medical providers during outpatient visits and not reported or no medical treatment is sought for the injury. She then briefly explained the categories of injury, intentional and unintentional. The term “intentional” is used to refer to injuries resulting from purposeful human action, whether directed at oneself or others. Intentional injuries include self-inflicted and interpersonal acts of violence intended to cause harm.

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey then reviewed the information contained in the report starting with the information in the tables showing the top five causes of emergency department visits then reviewing the data from 2016-2017 and the increase in the number of injuries from falls. She noted the table on page eight that shows the fall death rate by key demographics in Wake County. The largest increase in death by falls was in the aged 65 and over population. There was some discussion on the lack of data in the report on Hispanic deaths and that there is no data listed for the Hispanic population in the report. It was noted that if this information is available it should be included in the report. Dr. Perry also spoke about breaking down the age group in the falls a little more to show the higher range individually, such as an 85+ age group.

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey then spent some time discussing the overdose deaths and there was some discussion among the Board members of the opioid crisis. Mr. Ellis spoke about discussions with United Healthcare who is looking at holding a summit in the Triangle to bring together best practices in dealing with the opioid crisis.

Chair Dr. Smith stated that the Board had discussed and received the report. He asked for a motion to accept the report and Mr. John Myhre motioned and Ms. Stephanie Treadway seconded. The report was unanimously accepted.

Board Committee Chairs' Reports:

- Social Services Committee: Committee Chair Angie Welsh gave a brief update of the presentations they had recently seen and reported that another new member had joined the Committee.
- Public Health Committee – Committee Chair Dr. Smith gave a brief update of presentations that the Committee had approved and recommended to the board. He also spoke about the advocacy meeting in January and let the group know they were beginning to work on the event and will be polling members for information on what to present to the legislatures.
- Regional Networks Committee – Mayor Eagles reminded the group of the upcoming joint CAC retreat on November 8th and encouraged Board members to attend if possible. He announced that Human Services Board Vice Chair Ms. Angie Welsh will be emceeding the event. He also mentioned an advocacy training session that will take place at the retreat and encouraged all board members to sign up for at least this session. He then spoke about the groups action plan and explained what the priorities were for the group.

Human Services Directors Report

(Presented by Ms. Regina Petteway)

Ms. Petteway was not present for the meeting. Dr. Ledford gave a brief update on the data analytics being revised into a more robust report. Dr. Ledford also reported that an initiative had passed yesterday from the Center for Medicaid and Medicare approving the Medicaid waiver which impacts Wake County by starting an 18-month deadline to change our current payment system and how we provide services.

Environmental Services Director's Report

(Presented by Dr. Joseph Threadcraft)

Dr. Threadcraft spoke about several items:

- Imagine a Day Without Water, an event that took place during the State Fair, was a great success.
- He updated the Board members on a grant that Environmental Services has applied for with the Duke Energy Water Resource Fund. This grant will be used for the 50-year water supply plan.
- Mr. Evan Kane had provided an update on water regulations that would incorporate recent change from the state as well as remove and add items that are beneficial to Wake

County. One of the items identified an area in eastern Wake where there are radionuclides, a natural contaminate. Once this presentation was made there was an uptick in requests for water sampling. The capacity with current staff cannot keep up with these requests so other staff are being used to collect water samples. In the future as the public is more aware of the importance of testing there may a need for additional staff.

- The Environmental Services Business Plan will be presented to the manager's office to correlate work activities with the budget. The discussion will focus on the outcome and the specific objective as well as to identify what current resources are being utilized.

Participation in Community Events:

- Ms. Horna spoke about attending the State of the County event and how well it was put together and the great information that was passed on.
- Commissioner West spoke about the Social and Economic Vitality meeting in Knightdale where about 30-35 nonprofits participated as well as NC State University. There was a presentation with a lot of great ideas and strategies, specifically looking at about seven capacity areas that nonprofits are being challenged by.
- Mr. Myhre spoke about being on an appeal panel for a dangerous dog appeal panel hearing and that the appeal will come to the full Board next month.
- Dr. Perry spoke about attending an educational event on opioid prescribing that will take place at the McKimmon Center this weekend.
- Ms. Angie Welsh spoke about a new initiative funded by the Rex Endowment, it is a Wake County Child Abuse Prevention Plan that will span about one year. This is just beginning with the first meeting taking place in November.
- Mr. Ellis announced Lorena McDowell will be the County's Housing director and he spoke of her experience in this area. Ms. Fiorella spoke about the Housing Initiative the Wake County Women's Commission is working on and asked that Ms. McDowell be invited to connect with this Committee.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Commissioner West and Dr. Smith spoke about possible monthly or quarterly recognition for county staff, either individuals, recipients or programs. Dr. Smith stated he would meet with Ms. Regina Petteway to bring this about.
- Ms. Debra Baker to place the Dangerous Dog Appeal Panel Recommendation on the November Board Agenda.
- Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey will look in to adding Hispanic data into the Injury Report as well as breaking down the age group for falls to show an additional bracket rather than grouping the 65+ all together.

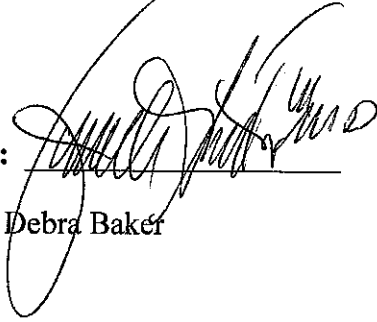
Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 am.

Board Chair's Signature:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debra Baker', written over a horizontal line.

Date:

11/15/18

Respectfully submitted by Debra Baker

