

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Minutes
June 26, 2013

The Durham County Board of Social Services held its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 26, 2013 9:00 a.m., at 300 North Duke Street in conference room 2221. The following DSS Board Members were in attendance: Chairman Newman Aguiar, Vice Chair Dr. Tara L. Fikes, Commissioner Wendy Jacobs, Helen J. Berry and Jane Volland.

The DCDSS Department was represented by the following: Director Michael A. Becketts, Cynthia Cason, Pinkie Davis-Boyd, Linda Hicks, Betty Hughes, Marie Johnson, Victor Isler, Toni Pedroza, Betty Greene, Rhonda Stevens, Lynn Thomas, Bob Wallace, Darlene Whitfield, Jovetta Whitfield, Alonzo Ward(Student intern) and Montrella Springfield.

Assistant County Attorney Danielle Briggs attended the Board meeting.

Public Attendee: Eddie Stockhausen,
AIM Health Services

DSS Board Chair Newman Aguiar called the meeting to order.

Proposed Agenda

The proposed agenda approved as printed.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Newman Aguiar informed board members the minutes from May 22, 2013 regular meeting and June 13, 2013 work session required approval.

Board member Jane Volland offered a motion for approval of the minutes from June 13, 2013 work session. Vice Chair Tara Fikes seconded. The minutes for the June 13, 2013 work session were approved. The minutes from the May 22, 2013 regular meeting were approved with a motion from Board member Helen Berry and seconded by Commissioner Wendy Jacobs.

Public Comments

No public comments.

DSS Board Report - Chair Newman Aguiar

Fiscal Year ending June 28, 2013

- Chair Aguiar expressed gratitude for the opportunity to chair the DSS Board and acknowledged the commitment of the Board members. He spoke about DSS moving in the right direction and recognitions.

Director's Report - Michael Becketts

Director Becketts provided a written report with highlights and challenges over the past month along with the DSS Action Items and DSS Vacancies Reports.

Director Becketts mentioned the Partnership with UNC School of Social Work/Jordan Institute. Director Becketts along with the assistant directors, program managers and supervisors completed the foundation for the leadership development. County Human Resources is interested in modeling their leadership academy on the frame work in place at DSS.

The State informed county department of social services to anticipate an increase of movement related to the Affordable Care Act. Based on the information received, up to 30% of the county's population will be eligible for Medicaid. This information has shared with the Deputy County Manager. Two town hall meetings have been scheduled for August. Director Becketts will keep the Board updated.

The pilot for the Coordinated Intake has ended with guidance from HSAC and the City. A meeting was held with representatives from the city and the provider community to develop a plan.

Social Services and the Durham Police Department are rebuilding their partnership. Board members requested contacting the Sheriff Department.

Assistant Directors' Update

a. CSE, Finance and Facility Support-Antonia Pedroza

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Child Support Enforcement continues to lead in collections.

Additional funding for Child Care subsidy was denied by the State. The State was informed of county dollars received and agreed to make up difference in overspending up to \$122,826.

Operations distributed the first bi-weekly news brief regarding the move to the Human Services Complex.

b. Family Economic Independence-Rhonda Stevens

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

June was Hunger Awareness Month. Approximately 260 food bags were given to individuals coming to Duke Street applying for services.

Two Work First workers attended a symposium on Trauma and Youth of Color. Work First identified four youth to participate in the YouthWork Internship Program (Mayor's Summer Youth Program)

A challenge along is moving staff to new work teams to align with the structure of workflow for NCFAST.

c. Customer Accountability and Program Development-Catherine Williamson-Hardy

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Darlene Whitfield introduced the intern working in the Customer Information Center.

Lynn Thomas reported staff working hard due to the transition to NCFAST.

d. Family Safety and Permanence-Jovetta Whitfield

Increase in children coming into foster care. School social workers out for the summer and will return in August.

Challenges continue with CPS vacancies, staff working hard to fill positions.

Foster Care Awareness Month was successful with downtown business marketing recruitment materials.

Community Child Protective Team information will be forwarded to Board Member Jane Volland.

Unfinished Business

Mission and Vision Statement

- Board member Jane Volland offered the motion to adopt the re-drafted Mission and Vision statements and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Wendy Jacobs.
- The redrafted Mission and Vision statements were formally adopted by the DSS Board.

DSS Board Policy and Operating Procedures

- After minor revisions a motion was made by Commissioner Jacobs to approve the DSS Board Policy and Operating Procedures for review by the County Attorney's Office. Board member Helen Berry seconded the motion. The DSS Board approved the Policy and Operating Procedures to be reviewed the County Attorney's Office.

East Durham Community Initiative (EDCI)

- Director Becketts submitted a memorandum to the DSS Board related to EDCI.
- A Memorandum of Understanding is being drafted for the Board to review. The MOU will list the non-profit name Durham At-Risk Youth Collaborative.
- Board member Jane Volland offered a motion to approve the proposal to give prioritization for Child Care Subsidy to Durham County Residents who live in the area specified as EDCI. Vice Chair Tara Fikes seconded and the DSS Board approved the proposal to give prioritization for Child Care Subsidy to Durham County Residents who live in the area specified as EDCI.

Newsletter

- An email was received from Michelle Lynn Communications informed the board all the members have been profiled in the newsletter.

Service Directory

- The service directory has been revised and distributed to the DSS Board. The directory will be reissued annually and placed on various listserv to reference.

Election of New Officers

- Vice Chair Tara Fikes was nominated as Chair and Chair Newman Aguiar was nominated as Vice Chair. Nominations were accepted by the board members. The Chairperson will be Dr. Tara L. Fikes and the Vice Chair will be Newman Aguiar for 2013-2014 by a unanimous vote.

Chair Aguiar inquired about additional concerns or questions requiring the DSS Board attention. Commissioner Wendy Jacobs offered a motion to move to closed session The Board will adjourn to Closed Session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee, pursuant to G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6). The motion was seconded by Board Member Helen J. Berry. With a unanimous vote the meeting moved to closed session at 10:50 am.

The meeting was re-opened with no action taken. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Chairperson

Date

Secretary to the Board

Date