

**Wake County Human Services Board
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2019**

Board Members Present:

Deborah Lawson
Edward Buchan
Fiorella Horna
Dr. James Smith, III
Commissioner James West
John Myhre
McKinley Wooten, Jr.
Dr. Randy Marsh
Stephanie Treadway
Commissioner Vickie Adamson

Staff Members Present:

Delores Long
Josephine Rutledge
Regina Petteway
Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey
Derwick Paige
Jennifer Federico
Bridget Wight
Debra Baker
Vickie Adamson
Ken Murphy
Derwick Paige
Craig Burrus
Pauline Singletary
Dr. Jennifer Federica
Chris Dillion
Andre Pierce
David Ellis
Ramsay Hoke

Guests Present:

Frank Eagles

Call to Order

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

Reflections

Ms. Fiorella Horna quoted Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right." And another powerful quote. "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." Ms. Fiorella then went on to say that she is grateful that the Board can advocate to those agencies that are being affected negatively in our community.

Treasurers Report

Chair Dr. Smith then announced in the Treasurer's absence that the Board funds latest bank statement noted that there is a balance of \$3,930.92. Ms. Debra Baker then reminded the Chair that this did not reflect the \$1000 donation that was given to Child Welfare at the last meeting. The next Bank statement will reflect this deduction.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Dr. Smith asked for a motion to approve the December 20, 2018 meeting minutes. Mr. Edward Buchan motioned and was seconded by Ms. Stephanie Treadway. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Next Board Meeting – February 28, 2019

Human Services Board Key Issues and Priorities Discussion

Chair Dr. Smith discussed the upcoming advocacy event taking place at Dr. Sharon Fosters home on Sunday, January 27, 2019. The Board and Committee members had previously chosen the following as the key areas of focus:

- Child Welfare – Children need to move through the child welfare system to a permanent home faster
- Keeping pace with growth
- Effective Implementation of multiple recommendations in the Wake County Population Health Task Force report

Dr. Smith then reviewed each category and briefly discussed the talking points for each.

Board Committee Chairs' Reports

- Social Services Committee – Chair Dr. Randy Marsh briefly discussed the key issues document coming out of the collaborative joint meeting between the two Board Sub-Committees. He spoke about the need for more combined Committee meetings and that this will keep the two Committees connected in their work for the Board.
- Public Health Committee – Chair Mr. John Myhre seconded what Dr. Marsh spoke about in the terms of aligning and educating the two committees by strategically using combined Committee meetings.

Chronic Disease Report [Accreditation Benchmark #2.4]

(Presented by Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey)

Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey notified the Board members that she is retiring after over 40 years in the Public Health and Environmental field. She thanked the Board members for their consideration and for being involved with her presentations throughout the years. Dr. Smith thanked Dr. Alfano-Sobsey for her dedication to Wake County.

Before she began her presentation Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey spoke about the community events taking place to gather input for the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The community events will take place on January 31st at several locations and she encouraged the Board members to attend and give their input. Dr. Smith informed Dr. Alfano-Sobsey that the

Board members had been in discussion and were planning on having a Board representative at each site on January 31st.

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey then proceeded to review the information contained in the Chronic Disease report that had been provide to the Board members in their meeting packet. She introduced her assistant, Mr. Ramsey Hoke and thanked him for all the data and effort that he puts into the report as well. She then spoke at length about the general definition of disparities and that there are disparities in every category. She defined disparities as when one group is at more risk or more vulnerable to a certain condition compared to another group. She noted the disparities in the report and that some groups will have more disparities than others and this report will show that. She then went on to discuss that why we try to look at all groups as best as we can there are some groups such as Hispanics, that we just do not have the numbers for, so this group is not represented well in the report. The leading causes of death in all areas are improving in North Carolina in general. The leading causes of death/incidents overall for Wake County are:

1. Cancer (all types)
2. Diseases of the heart
3. Cerebrovascular disease
4. Other unintentional injuries
5. Chronic lower respiratory diseases
6. Alzheimer's disease
7. Diabetes mellitus
8. Pneumonia and influenza
9. Nephritis, nephrotic syndrome and nephrosis

She then referred to the figures in the report showing the cancer death rates by race and gender. She noted overall that African-American males suffer the highest death rate from cancers and noted that this is seen throughout the report. Dr. Smith asked Dr. Alfano-Sobsey to point out the Hispanic male figures and it was noted that there was a large gap between the two. Dr. Smith noted that he did not understand the gap between the African-American male and Hispanic male numbers as they share so many similarities as far as the social determinates of health. Mr. Edward Buchan asked if these numbers had any relationship to smoking. It was noted that of cancer deaths the trachea/bronchus/lung cancer deaths were the highest numbers and could be attributed to smoking.

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey then pointed out the statistics for prostate cancer and there was extended discussion on the disparity in the rates for African-American males. Dr. Smith took time to discuss the need for men to receive medical care and that due to medical facilities closings and the lack of places that will take uninsured individuals this has become an increasingly urgent issue. Commissioner West agreed that this must be made a priority as well. The disparity was also noted in the numbers of colon/rectum/anal cancer for African-American males. Dr. Smith spoke about screenings being important in the fight against colon cancer and discussed an organization that he is a part of that has access to grants to assist with funding. He stated that he would connect with Dr. Sue Lynn Ledford and others on a personal level to work on being involved in an upcoming health fair.

Dr. Alfano-Sobsey then wrapped up her presentation by briefly discussing several other items in the disease report and noted that the disparity gap is closing in cervical cancer deaths.

Mr. John Myhre motioned to accept the report for Accreditation Benchmark #2.4 and it was seconded. The Board voted unanimously to accept the report. Chair Dr. Smith then asked the Board members to stand and recognize Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey for all that she has done over the years.

Human Services Board Advocacy Training [Accreditation Benchmark #36.3]

(Presented by Mr. Chris Dillon)

Mr. Dillon began by introducing himself and briefly discussing the election results from the most recent election in 2018. He spoke about no real change taking place to the delegation since 2016. Mr. Dillon then spoke about the statewide election results and the four Constitutional Amendments that were adopted and what failed to pass. He briefly spoke about the projected Wake County voter turnout in 2020 is at 87% which is unheard of.

Mr. Dillon then spoke to Board members about how they can be an effective advocate for Wake County:

- Keep it brief
- Make issues relatable to the personality and district
 - Find a personally relatable trait to bond over
 - Try to have actual constituents talk to elected officials
- Any leave behind materials should have a brief executive summary
- Monetize efficiencies and stress better community improvements
- Follow up with a hand-written note
- Post photos on social media of interactions

Ms. Petteway asked about possibly having a social media training session for the Board members. Mr. Dillon suggested that this request go to Communications so that a training session could be put together specifically for Board members.

Newly appointed Human Services Board member Ms. Deborah Lawson was in attendance for this training session.

Chair Dr. Smith thanked Mr. Chris Dillon for his presentation.

Human Services Directors Report

(Presented by Ms. Regina Petteway)

- Ms. Petteway announced that the Human Services Board Executive Assistant, Ms. Debra Baker, had accepted another position within Wake County. Ms. Petteway and Board Chair Dr. Smith then recognized Ms. Baker with a gift and a few Board members gave their congratulations and spoke a few words of praise. Ms. Petteway then introduced Ms. Bridget Wight who will be temping in the Executive Assistant position.

- Ms. Petteway then went on to notify Board members that North Carolina Medicaid is soliciting feedback on resources for ambulance transportation to hospitals as part of the Medicaid transformation. They have created a link to an online survey and Ms. Petteway passed out instructions to get to this link. She asked that all Board members take a moment to complete this survey.
- Community Health Needs Assessment – the written paper and research have been completed. It is now time to prioritize and she asked that Board members attend one of the community events near where they live on January 31, 2019. Dr. Edie Alfano-Sobsey also informed the group that there will be a link provided to participate in CHNA community input online and that this link would be posted on the WakeGov.com website once it was up and running. Ms. Petteway stated that once the link was up it would be emailed to the Board members for their input and distribution.
- Ms. Petteway then reported on the Child Welfare stakeholders meeting that had taken place the week prior. The purpose was to look at the process and what it takes to move children through Foster Care to a point of permanency. She asked Mr. Wooten to report on his thoughts from his attendance of this event. Mr. Wooten reported that this was a good opportunity for people to understand what happens from start to finish in this process and then to start the conversation on what can we do as a community to help these parents. When there are no community services it takes longer for parents to have reunification. Mr. David Ellis also spoke about the system and that we need to make this process simpler to understand. Mr. Ellis then acknowledged Ms. Petteway and the Child Welfare staff for bringing the number of children in the Foster Care system down dramatically over the last year.

Environmental Services Director's Report

(Presented by Dr. Joseph Threadcraft)

Dr. Threadcraft briefly reported on the impact of the Federal shutdown on the recently entered contract with the USGS. The contract is approved and once the USGS staff return to work the contract will be executed and the process will move forward. Dr. Threadcraft then noted that Mr. Andre Pierce and Dr. Jennifer Federico would give short presentations on some necessary information for the Board.

- **Alignment of NC Retail Food Establishment Regulations:** Mr. Andre Pierce began by explaining that the Conference for Food Protection (CFP) meets every two years to debate and update the FDA Food Code, publishing it every four years. The resulting Code is a model ordinance that may be adopted by jurisdictions to regulate their retail food establishment programs. Most national industry partners and franchises use the Code to develop their standard operating procedures. In 2012, North Carolina adopted the 2009 FDA Food Code. Wake County conducted studies of CDC risk factors associated with foodborne illness before and after the new state rules were adopted. The study data show significant reductions in each of the CDC risk factors, due in part to the state's adoption of the Code which focused on risk factors. There have been two publications of the FDA Food Code since 2009. During each biennial meeting of CFP, participants submit food safety issues for consideration by one of three councils. Issues must be supported with science that supports a regulatory change. Code changes may become restrictive, depending on the science. The

North Carolina retail food establishment rules are not fully aligned with current FDA Food Code.

Changes include but are not limited to:

Issue	North Carolina Retail Food Service rules (2009 FDA Food Code)	2017 FDA Food Code Update
Employee – Diseases for exclusion or restriction	No restriction or exclusion required for species of non-typhoidal <i>Salmonella</i> ; NC rules address <i>Salmonella typhi</i> only.	Adds all <i>Salmonella</i> species (including <i>Salmonella typhi</i>) for employee exclusion / restriction
HACCP Plans (Food Safety Plan for specialized processes)	Required for all Reduced Oxygen Packaging (ROP)	Relaxes requirement of HACCP plans if ROP is less than 48 hours
Glove use	Requires handwashing between all glove changes	Relaxes handwashing requirement between glove changes if employee is not changing task

Counties in North Carolina enforce state rules and do not have authority to develop retail food establishment rules of their own. Counties rely on the state to promulgate retail food establishment regulations. The current state rules are based on the 2009 Code which have lost pace, in terms of science and trends, with the current FDA Food Code.

Mr. Pierce then stated that the purpose of this presentation was to ask the Wake County Human Services Board to consider sending a letter to the North Carolina Department of Human Services, Division of Public Health, Environmental Health Section, to support the alignment of the North Carolina rules with the 2017 FDA Food Code.

Chair Dr. Smith asked about the meaning of Reduced Oxygen Packaging (ROP) and Mr. Pierce gave the example of vacuum packaged food products.

Mr. McKinley Wooten motioned for the Human Services Board to endorse the letter to the State supporting this request from Environmental Services. There was a second to the motion and Chair Dr. Smith asked the Board members for a vote. The Board members voted unanimously to endorse the letter to the State.

- Wake county Animal Center – User Fee Update: Dr. Jennifer Federico began by explaining that this was an annual review of user fees, specifically adoption fees, daily boarding fees, and consolidation/reclaim fees. She briefly reviewed the current fees for all three categories and then discussed and noted fees from comparable counties. Dr. Randy Marsh asked when the last was that the fees had been updated and Dr. Federico replied that the last increase was

in 2016. She stated that in 2019 the adoption fees were not updated, just the boarding and reclaim fees. Dr. Threadcraft asked Dr. Federico to discuss the impact of the fee changes and she pointed out the fee chart that had been included in the materials. Dr. Federico reviewed the fee spreadsheet and explained that these figures can change year to year depending on the population of the animal center. Commissioner Adamson asked about owners that cannot afford the reclaim fees and Dr. Federico assured the Commissioner and other Board members that they work with people to get their pets back to them.

In closing Dr. Jennifer Federico asked for the Boards support. Dr. Smith confirmed the support from the Board and thanked Dr. Jennifer Federico for her presentation

Human Services Board Interview: Ms. Ann Rollin
(Presented by Chair Dr. Smith)

The Board members took turns asking questions of the new candidate, Ms. Ann Rollins, and then discussed her qualifications.

Dr. Smith then asked the Board for a motion to recommend that the Board of Commissioners appoint Ms. Ann Rollins to the Wake County Human Services Board. A motion was made by Mr. John Myhre and seconded by Ms. Stephanie Treadway. The Board voted unanimously to recommend Ms. Ann Rollins to be appointed to the Board

ACTION ITEMS:

- County Manager David Ellis recommended that in the future Mr. Chris Dillon be invited to the HS Board advocacy events.
- Ms. Petteway stated that once the CHNA community input link was up it would be emailed to the Board members for their input and distribution.

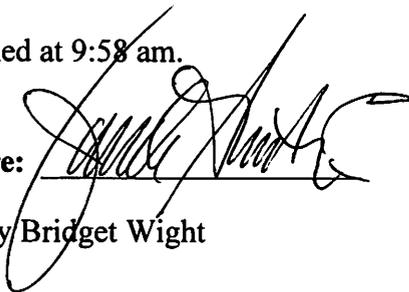
Public Comment

- Mayor Frank Eagles asked to speak to the Board and Chair Dr. Smith gave permission. Mayor Eagles stated that about the Boards discussion on men’s health that he thinks that there should be a men’s health clinic held once a week in the regional center facilities. It was noted by Ms. Regina Petteway and Mr. Derwick Paige.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 am.

Board Chair’s Signature:



Date:

2/28/19

Respectfully submitted by Bridget Wight