

**Charlottesville**  
**Social Services**  
**Advisory Board**

City of Charlottesville, City Hall Annex, P.O. Box 911,  
Charlottesville, VA 22902



**Christine Gough, Chair**  
**Kathryn Gallanosa, Vice Chair**

Board Members:  
Lisa Brown  
Rebekah Menning  
Janet Morrow  
LD Perry  
Cathee Johnson Phillips  
Mike Signer  
Judith Zeitler

**MINUTES**

Charlottesville Department of Social Services  
Advisory Board

October 28, 2019

**Board Members Present:** Lisa Brown, Kathryn Gallanosa, Christine Gough, Rebekah Menning, Janet Morrow, LD Perry, Judith Zeitler

**Board Members Absent:** Cathee Johnson Phillips, Mike Signer

**Staff Members Present:** Diane Kuknyo, Laura Morris, Autumn Scott

**Guests:** Four students from UVA

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m.

**Introductions:**

The board welcomed four students from the University of Virginia's Masters of Public Policy program.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

The September meeting minutes were approved with one correction under the members' report. The section on cultural humility training was revised to reflect that the question came from Mr. Perry.

**Members' Report:**

Ms. Brown shared that Birth Sisters of Charlottesville is now accepting clients after completing some structural changes with the help of a new fiscal sponsor, the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation. Ms. Brown will send more information to the board with instructions on how to refer clients.

Ms. Brown also shared that the Charlottesville free clinic, Central Virginia free clinic, and University medical associates have formed a primary care initiative/partnership and are looking to hire two full time navigator positions. Ms. Brown recently attended a forum to discuss how the positions need to be structured and other logistics. The community navigators will focus on connecting those who need medical assistance with primary care services instead of emergency services.

Ms. Zeitler informed the board and guests of the upcoming Ken Hardy Training on November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> and shared that the training covers topics such as racial awareness, sensitivity, and racial trauma. Ms. Kuknyo added that the training is more clinical focused and tailored towards mental health practitioners and is not open to the public.

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Mr. Perry shared that the Thomas Jefferson Area Coalition for the Homeless (TJACH) is planning to host a sock hop to benefit the Haven to support their mission of ending homelessness in the Charlottesville community. The Haven will be accepting clothes donations to distribute at the sock hop which will be held in the Jefferson-Madison library sometime in December. Mr. Perry also shared that the coalition plans to hold another repair café at the Haven in January and hopes to make it an annual event. The sock hop and repair café are organized for the homeless community, but all are welcome to attend.

Mr. Perry also shared a book recommendation with the board and guests, “Open Season: Legalized Genocide of Colored People” by Ben Crump. In the book, Mr. Crump discusses mass incarceration, unequal educational opportunities, police brutality, an unequal justice system, and other prevalent issues in America.

### **Chair’s Report:**

Ms. Gough shared that the department’s holiday luncheon is tentatively scheduled for December 9<sup>th</sup> and reminded the board that the annual report will be presented to city council on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Update from the Officer Nominating Subcommittee:**

Subcommittee members, Ms. Brown and Ms. Menning will send an email to each board member to ask for nominations or if interested in a chair position. Ms. Gough added that both she and Ms. Gallanosa are interested in serving another term as board officers. Ms. Brown and Ms. Menning will report back at the November meeting.

### **Director’s Report:**

Ms. Kuknyo reminded board members that clients can attend board meetings and discuss specifics about their cases; but the department will not comment to protect confidentiality.

### **Annual Report Draft:**

Board members reviewed the report draft and provided feedback. Department staff will make revisions based on board member’s comments.

**The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 25, 2019 in the City Hall Basement Conference Room.**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Recorded by:  
Autumn Scott