

**Kent County Department of Social Services  
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
May 15, 2017 3:30 PM**

**Present:** Shelley Heller, Olythea Hunley, Kevin Karpowicz, Charlotte Potts, Darlene Spurrier, Shelly Neal-Edwards, Patty Dahle (scribe)

**Absent:** Karen Dionisio, Rosalie Kuechler, Bill Washington

**Presentation:** Service Questions and Answers – Life of a Case

▪ **Chairperson's Report (David Kelley):**

- Approval of minutes from April 18, 2017 board meeting: Motion to approve made by Kevin Karpowicz, second by Olythea Hunley, motion carried by unanimous vote.

- No report from Chairperson.

▪ **Kent County CARES Foundation (Lee Hunley)**

- Lori Wheeler event May 18, 2017 it will be held at the American Legion in Chestertown.
  - Duties have all been covered. Food will be sold between 5pm and 6pm.
  - Committee met on May 10<sup>th</sup> to finalize details and will meet on May 17<sup>th</sup> at the Legion for set up.
- New Kent County CARES brochures were shown to the Board.
- Paper work received from the Historical Society regarding Legacy day which is scheduled for Saturday August 19, 2017. Lee spoke to the board about the event last year and asked for their input regarding doing the event again this year. Majority ruled not to participate this year, given the effort put in last year with little result.
- Next Fundraising meeting will be June 14, 2017 @ 10am in Main Conference room at 350 High Street.

▪ **Director's Report (Shelly Neal - Edwards):**

- **COA Accreditation** – Preliminary Self Study due is done. Standards are coming together and the agency is working hard.
- **United Way Grant** was submitted on behalf of the Kent County CARES Foundation. This year we asked for \$3,000. The interview process was May 10, 2017. Lisa Falls, Assistant Director of Services, Kathryn McAllister, Supervisor of Child Services did the interview. There was a question regarding the increased amount the Foundation was seeking. It was explained that this money is used for supplies and training for the CAC.
- **Senior Summit, June 8, 2017** – Shelly shared flyer for 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Senior Summit at the Talbot Community Center, with the board and thought it would be something great for them to share with their communities. (See attached)
- **MASSB (Maryland Association of Social Services Board) 2017 Conference** – Shelly asked the Board members if they would be interested in attending the upcoming Conference on October 26 & 27, 2017 in Annapolis.

- **Budget Cut** – Shelly informed the board that there is a \$1.8M budget cut. Reason for the reduction is actually related to the **TANF** (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), deficit. Federal TANF funds allocated to Maryland have been reducing due to falling caseloads, and it is expected that this funding will continue to reduce in the next year or more. DHR has not passed the TANF deficit experienced over the past few years on to local offices. During the 2017 session, the legislature required DHR to address and reduce this shortfall.
- **Division Performance Reports – April** – were reviewed and approved without question.
- Before the meeting adjourned Dave Kelley thanked Darlene Spurrier for her years of service on the board. Darlene has taken a job in Talbot County and will be unable to serve a second term on the board due to location.
- **Motion to Adjourn:** With no additional business at hand, a motion to adjourn was made by Shelly Heller at 5:15pm, seconded by Lee Hunley. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- The next meeting will be held Monday, June 19, 2017 at 3:30 pm in the Child Support Conference Room, 315 High Street, Chestertown, MD

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Dahle

Recording Secretary