

MEETING MINUTES

Alexandria Community Services Meeting

4850 Mark Center Dr. Alexandria, VA

Conference Room #1301

November 2, 2023 – 6:30 pm

Members Present: Mary Lyman, Chair
Henry Johnson, Vice Chair
Mary Catherine Gibbs
Michele Walz
Krista Oberlander
Brian Marvin
Marybeth Plaskus
Ian Ring
Luisa Lancetti
Abdulahi Abdalla
Erica Hamilton

Members Absent: Venus Yarbrough (Unexcused)

Staff: Chontelai Patterson-Mendie, Administrative Operations Officer
Emily Bentley, Opioid Response Coordinator
Celestine Chew, Admin Support Supervisor

Ms. Lyman called the Board Meeting to order at 6:41 p.m.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

II. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

- Approval of October 12, 2023, Board Minutes: On a motion by Mr. Henry Johnson, seconded by Mrs. Mary Catherine Gibbs, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the October 12, 2023, Board meeting.

III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Ms. Emily Bentley from the Opioid Work Group of Alexandria discussed the Fentanyl use amongst the youth/ teens and young adults in Alexandria. Fentanyl became a problem in 2018 and escalated in 2020. She trained on the proper use of Narcan for someone overdosing.
- Ms. Chontelai Patterson-Mendie on behalf of Jennifer Kane discussed the serious injuries and deaths within the DCHS programs. She talked about what the staff, the Safety Committee and Risk Management are doing to lower the preventable incidents.

IV. BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS /CONCERNS

Adjournment

Having accomplished all items on the published agenda and on a motion by Mr. Henry Johnson, seconded by Ms. Michele Walz, Ms. Lyman adjourned the meeting at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Celestine Chew