

KNOXVILLE-KNOX COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

May 26, 2022

MINUTES

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee was held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday May 26, 2022. A hybrid meeting was held at the Ross building with some members attending in person and other members using the digital platform.

BOARD MEMBERS PARTICIPATING

Ms. Desiree Beasley

Mr. Sam Brown – representing Representative Sam McKenzie

Mr. Doug Burton – representing Ms. Amy Brooks

Mr. Chris Caldwell – representing Mayor Glenn Jacobs

Ms. Angela Cheek

Ms. Anna Compton

Ms. Polly Doka

Ms. Ann Jefferson

Ms. Renee Kelly – representing Superintendent Bob Thomas

Mr. Orris Nero

Ms. Ashley Ogle – representing Mr. Ben Bentley

Ms. Martha Olson

Mr. Terrell Patrick

Ms. Judy Poulson

Judge John Rosson

Ms. Kenyadah Sullivan

Mr. Derek Tate

Dr. Sandra Twardosz

Ms. Lula Williams

Mr. Charles Wright

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Virginia Anagnost

Commissioner Charles Busler

Mr. Buz Johnson

Mr. Charles Lomax – representing Mayor Indya Kincannon

Ms. Dena Mashburn – representing Mr. Kevin Parton

Councilwoman Gwen McKenzie

Mr. Tank Strickland

1. RECEPTION FOR NANCY THOMAS

Ms. Nancy Thomas, Head Start/Early Head Start director, was celebrated for her 44 years of service to Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee Head Start. Ms. Thomas has been the Director since 2016 and will retire from that position on June 10, 2022.

The meeting opened with a moment of silence presented by Ms. Polly Doka, vice-board chair, presiding.

2. MINUTES (MAILED)

Ms. Doka asked if there were additions or corrections to the minutes of April 28, 2022, board meeting. There being none, the minutes were approved as distributed.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Sandra Twardosz presented the Administrative Committee Report from Wednesday, May 18, 2022, and made the following report:

Approved the personnel actions on the attached sheet. The committee reviewed the report of the Office on Aging Invested Funds. The committee reviewed the Homeless Services financial report and the reports of various Covid-19 related funds for the month of April 2022. The Head Start/Early Head Start financial report and program report for the month of April was reviewed. No action is required. Staff was authorized to submit the application for the Head Start Cost of Living Increase (COLA) and the application for Head Start Quality Improvement funds. Full board approval is recommended. This will be a separate agenda item. The committee reviewed the recommendation for Head Start Director and Head Start Associate Director. Ms. Renee Hauge is recommended for Head Start Director effective June 10, 2022. Full board approval is recommended. Ms. Suzanne Inman is recommended for Head Start Associate Director effective June 10, 2022. Full board approval is recommended. The committee received an update on the Western Heights Head Start Center project. No action is required. The committee reviewed and approved the Funding Summary for May 2022. Full board approval is recommended. This will be a separate agenda item. The committee reviewed the Recommendations for Allocations of Older Americans Act Funds. Full board approval is recommended. This will be a separate agenda item. Plans were made for the May board meeting to celebrate Nancy Thomas's retirement and the May meeting will be a hybrid meeting with some members on-site and others participating remotely. Plans were made for the June meeting to be held in person only as long as the Covid-19 transmission rate remains low.

Dr. Twardosz moved to accept the Administrative Report. Ms. Kenyadah Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Charles Wright moved to accept Ms. Renee Hauge as the Director of Head Start/Early Head Start effective June 10, 2022. Ms. Desiree Beasley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Sullivan moved to accept Ms. Suzanne Inman as the Head Start Associate Director, effective June 10, 2022. Dr. Twardosz seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. HEAD START//EARLY HEAD START

Ms. Thomas said the proposed budget provides a 2.28% Cost of Living Increase (COLA) to be applied to the pay scale for all Head Start/Early Head Start positions. The program proposes to use Quality Improvement (QI) funds with a .72% increase to supplement the 2.28% COLA funds. The combined total will provide a total 3% salary increase for current employees. The increase will be implemented in May 2022 for all active employees retroactive from January 1, 2022.

Mr. Wright moved to approve the 3% increase for all current Head Start/Early Head Start employees. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Thomas proposed that the balance of the Quality Improvement funds be used in the Other category to support playground development.

Ms. Judy Poulson moved to transfer the balance of the QI funds to be used in the Other category to support playground development at the Centers. Mr. Orris Nero seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Thomas updated the board on the progress of the new Head Start/Early Head Start Center in Western Heights. The Western Heights Center is a two-story building with an elevator. The Center is progressing nicely and there is hope that the Center will open in Fall 2022.

Ms. Barbara Kelly informed the board that Transform Western Heights has been selected by the HUD Choice Neighborhood Initiative for a site visit in June.

5. ALLOCATION OF OLDER AMERICAN ACT FUNDS

Ms. Dottie Lyvers, Office on Aging director, introduced Mr. Bill Tapp, Council on Aging chair, who presented the recommendations for the allocation of Older Americans Act funds for \$223,834, effective July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. The following programs will benefit from allocations from the Older Americans Act funds: Office on Aging, \$70,940; Project LIVE, for \$37,353; Transportation, \$15,638; O'Connor Transportation, \$12,153; Legal Aid of East Tennessee, \$34,000; Homemaker Services (SCHAS), \$39,801; Senior Information & Referral, \$13,949; and Council on Aging, \$0.

Mr. Wright moved to accept the recommendations for allocation of funds from the Council on Aging. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND APPLICATIONS

Ms. Kelly reviewed the summary of grants, contracts, and applications, included in the board packet:

Nutrition Services

Mobile Meals. Received \$151,125 from United Way of Greater Knoxville to provide Mobile Meals.

Office on Aging

Care Provider Academy. Received \$20,000 from KUB Cares Grant to launch Care Provider Academy. This program will provide non-medical home care training in community mental health, as well as benefits enrollment workshops for 250 care providers.

Social Services

Youth WINS Program. Received \$54,000 from United Way of Greater Knoxville to support unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness by providing case management and linkage to community resources.

Resilient Families Program. Received \$55,800 from United Way of Greater Knoxville to provide long-term case management to families with children who are in financial crises and who are homeless, or at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Homeward Bound. Received \$110,813 from the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) to provide direct financial assistance to homeless families and to support the salary of two case managers.

Homeward Bound. Received \$110,000 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the City of Knoxville to support the salaries of two case managers who will serve homeless or at-risk youth and seniors.

Homeward Bound. Received an additional \$64,731 from the City of Knoxville/THDA ESG-CV funds to assist with rehousing payments through September 30, 2022.

Proposal/Application Summaries

Office on Aging

Daily Living Center. Applied for \$1,000 from the Purple Cities Alliance to support the programs at the Daily Living Center.

J.T. O'Connor. Applied for \$14,400 from AARP to develop outdoor learning classroom projects.

J.T. O'Connor. Applied for \$10,000 from the East Tennessee Foundation Arts Council for new curtains and to finish the stage floor at the Center.

Knox PAWS. Applied for \$10,000 from Mobile Meals of America to increase access to veterinary care.

Social Services

Homeward Bound. Applied for \$120,000 from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from Knox County to support the salaries of two outreach case managers who will work with homeless individuals living on the streets outside the city limits.

Project LIVE. Applied for \$600 from the Akima Club to purchase heaters and window air conditioner units for low-income seniors.

Mr. Wright moved to accept the grants, contracts and applications as presented. Ms. Anna Compton seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. PROGRAM UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were found in the board packet or announced at the meeting:

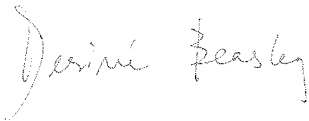
Beardsley Farm Garden Gallery Art Show. Friday, June 3, 2022, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, at Beardsley Farm. Enjoy artwork from the community and farm tours. Free and open to the public.

World Elder Abuse Day. Wednesday, June 15, 2022, 2:00 pm, meet in the atrium at the Ross building for a group photograph. Wear purple to show your support against elder abuse.

CAC Community Leadership Class of 2023. CAC is taking applications for Community Leadership. Applications are available online, or you can contact Lisa Higginbotham at 865-546-3500.

Ms. Ann Jefferson alerted the board that there is a lack of consistent service at the new Greyhound Bus depot located at the Marathon gas station on North Cherry Street. There is a lack of security for those who ride the buses. If anyone is interested in addressing this issue, please contact board member Ann Jefferson.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,



Desiree Beasley, board secretary