

# Juvenile Detention Commission for Northern Virginia

## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 15, 2024

**Call to Order:** Ms. Gooden called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

### ATTENDEES

**Members present:** Mrs. Marguarite Gooden (Arlington) Mrs. Sonnja Brown (Alexandria) Mr. Yon Lambert (Alexandria)

**Staff present:** Ms. Johnitha McNair, Mr. Ian Rachal, Mr. Jahi Banks, Ms. Emily Anne Reiney, Mr. Leroy White, Carolyn Pucciarelli, Dr. Mannie (School Principal), Tia Prince, Kennetra Wood (ACPS), Rachel Sturn (Intern), Sarena Cutaneo (Intern)

**Other Attendees:** Mr. Neil Title (Attorney), Mr. Amir Farshchian of 3-iT Accounting & Financial Services Corporation, Zakiya Worthey of KLamb, Mike Makey(CSU-Alexandria), Dorthea Peter(Member of the public) Luis Pitarque (Dewberry)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ms. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Lambert seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS:** Ms. Gooden opened the meeting in Mr. Conklin's absence, Ms. Brown and Mr. Lambert introduced themselves.

### COMMISSION BUSINESS

**Introduction of new Alexandria commissioner:** Mr. Yon Lambert was introduced as a new commissioner who represents Alexandria.

### REPORTS

**Financial Report:** Mr. Smith provided the financial reports, for shelter care and detention centers which covered up to December 31. Total assets were \$10 million, which is up from \$8.6 million at the end of November. Ms. Smith noted that there was \$418,000 in new revenue. Mr. Smith pointed out that the increase of \$1.4 million in assets is due to a recommendation by the auditors to reflect an actuarial value of pension assets which are held by VRS, dating back to June. Mr. Smith stated Alexandria City released the funds that were held in contingency, and this would no longer pose an issue. Mr. Lambert inquired why expenses for shelter care were running higher. Ms. McNair noted the increase was due to higher population and the maintenance of that higher population. Ms. Reiney noted that staffing levels contribute as well in an effort to ensure that full coverage for the population is met. A discussion followed.

**Ms. Worthey's Report:** Ms. Worthey reported the planned upcoming meeting with staff. There is an upcoming meeting with Alexandria's probation office and staff. Ms. Worthey reported that Karen Hernandez has community partnership meetings set up, so that residents can work at the center and when they return to the community they can continue to work. A staffing analysis is being completed for the Care Center. Ms. Worthey requested the commission determine what plans they would want to move forward with for Unit 7.

**Executive Director's Report:** Ms. McNair reported efforts of budget planning and review of operational needs continues. Currently there are 43 positions filled. There are ten residential/security vacancies. Ms. McNair stated that the drug treatment contract is being finalized. Ms. Gooden inquired if the food service positions had been filled. Ms. McNair stated that efforts continue to hire more staff and currently there are three full time staff. The facility is moving forward with updates and repairs to the doors and gates by getting quotes. Mr. Rachal confirmed one quote just for the locks was initially \$78,000 but has since been reduced to \$18,000. Mr. Rachal noted that all updates and repairs will cost around \$250,000. Ms. McNair stated all quotes will be submitted to the commission for approval.

**NVJDC Principal:** No Report.

**Care Center Report:** Ms. Reiney reported that trend seen in December is still ongoing as the waitlist for females continues to grow. There are currently eight females in the waiting list. Ms. Reiney noted since the certification age changed, eleven-year-old residents have been coming in to the center. There are currently 18 full-time staff, one member of staff is completing training. Ms. Reiney stated the center is currently applying for additional funding which would be used for an after-school program. Residents are completing four groups a day.

**Neil Title:** No report.

**CSU (Court Services Unit) Directors Reports:**

Alexandria – Mr. Mackey suggested providing an ISR to the center, to help support reporting.

Arlington – No report.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.