



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING
COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR

1:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Conwell called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Conwell asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee members Conwell, Sweeney and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Turner arrived after the roll call was taken. Committee member Stephens was absent.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Loh addressed the committee regarding children living in poverty and its' impact on custodial matters.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 1, 2024 MEETING

A motion was made by Ms. Conwell, seconded by Mr. Sweeney and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the May 1, 2024 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2024-0134: Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Make Them Know Your Name Foundation for the Heart Health Program from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Nicole Ward, Executive Director of Make Them Know Your Name Foundation, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0134. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Ward pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

Ms. Conwell requested to add funds in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and Mr. Sweeney requested to add \$5,000.00 from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund, which will be incorporated into a proposed substitute for consideration at the next Council meeting for second reading.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2024-0134 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Ms. Turner and Mr. Miller requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- b) R2024-0174: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$50,000, to DNA Rising for the Foundation of Home 2 project from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Danielle Acosta, Founder, President and Ms. LaToya Smith, Founder, Secretary for DNA Rising; and Mr. Trevor McAleer, Legislative Budget Advisor for County Council, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0174. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Acosta, Ms. Smith and Mr. McAleer pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2024-0174 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Ms. Conwell, Ms. Turner and Mr. Miller requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

6. PRESENTATION

- a) Child Protection Team Update - Jennifer Johnson, Executive Director, Canopy Child Advocacy Center

Ms. Jennifer Johnson, Executive Director of Canopy Child Advocacy Center made a presentation to the committee regarding Phase 1 and Phase 2 activities through December 31, 2023, Phase 3 targets through April 30, 2024, organization updates, operating budget overview, successes and opportunities and future goals of the organization.

Dr. Aparna Roy, Chief of Pediatrics, The MetroHealth System; Dr. Lolita McDavid, Medical Director, Child Advocacy and Protection for University Hospitals; Mr. Colin St. John, Senior Director of Primary Care Pediatrics for the Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Mr. William Moench, Hotline Administrator for the Division of Children and Family Services; and Mr. David Merriman, Director of the Division of Health and Human Services also addressed the committee on their respective roles as collaborative partners with the Canopy Child Advocacy Center. Discussion ensued. Committee members asked questions of Ms. Johnson, Dr. Roy, Dr. McDavid, Mr. St. John, Mr. Moench and Mr. Merriman pertaining to the presentation, which they answered accordingly.

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Ms. Conwell commented that it remains the County's top priority for children in care to be placed within Cuyahoga County rather than out-of-state.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Conwell adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m., without objection.