

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES
Minutes
July 17, 2012

The Durham County Board of Social Services held its regular meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 2012 8:30 a.m., at 300 North Duke Street, conference room 2221. The following DSS Board Members were in attendance: Chairman Newman Aguiar, Commissioner Michael D. Page, and Vice Chair Dr. Tara L. Fikes.

Board member Jane Volland received an excused absence.

The DCDSS Department was represented by the following: Interim Director Gail Perry, Ms. Antonia Pedroza, Ms. Catherine Williamson-Hardy, Ms. Rhonda Stevens, Mrs. Lynn Thomas, Ms. Betty Hughes, Ms. Cynthia Cason, Mr. Bob Wallace, Ms. Marie Johnson, Ms. Pinkie Davis-Boyd, Ms. Mary Flounoy, Mrs. Robyn Riley, Mrs. Darlene Whitfield, Ms. Jovetta Whitfield and Ms. Montrella Springfield.

Assistant County Attorney Danielle Briggs attended the Board meeting.

Incoming Director Michael A. Becketts attended the meeting.

Board Chair Newman Aguiar called the meeting to order. A quorum was not in attendance; therefore, the minutes ~~cannot~~were not be approved. ~~at this time.~~

Agenda

No changes.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Chair Aguiar moved forward~~ed~~ with reports from the Interim Director and Assistant Directors.

Interim Director's Report - Gail Perry

Interim Director Perry reported all is well at DSS.

Assistant Directors' Update

Customer Accountability - Antonia Pedroza (Written Report)

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Assistant Director's Report-Customer Accountability and Program Development - Catherine Williamson-Hardy (Written Report)

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Family Economic Independence - Rhonda Stevens (Written Report)

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Family Safety and Permanence Division - Jovetta Whitfield (Written Report)

A written report has been submitted to the DSS Board.

Chair Aguiar acknowledged this would be the last meeting attended by Interim Director Gail Perry. Chair Aguiar opened the floor granting staff the opportunity to commend Interim Director Gail Perry for her leadership.

Staff conveyed appreciation to Interim Director Gail Perry for commitment, compassion, leadership with a -positive attitude and service demonstrated presented to DSS, as well as, -and- the Durham community.

Chair Aguiar proposed that the leadership team work with the incoming Director as DSS continue to serve the citizens in Durham.

Approval of Minutes

Board member Newman Aguiar called the meeting to order when a quorum was in attendance. Vice Chair Fikes offered the motion to approve the June 27, 2012 minutes and Board member Michael Page seconded. The minutes were approved.

Board member Tara L. Fikes ~~seconded~~ inquired about Computer4Kids. ÷ Betty Hughes explained the ~~process~~ process ~~at DSS~~ for distributing computers to families. Approximately 84 computers were given to children in Durham Public Schools. Currently, there are 26 on the waiting list. DSS will receive additional computers in August for distribution.

Vice Chair Tara L. Fikes offered a motion to adjourn the meeting, the motion was seconded by board member Michael Page. The meeting was adjourned.

~~Ms. Whitfield met with representatives from Durham Housing Authority about the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The Director will present to the Board in July.~~

~~DSS Board Report -- Chair Stan Holt~~

~~Chair Stan Holt opened the floor for nominations of officers for 2012/2013. Board member Jane Volland nominated Newman Aguiar as DSS Board Chair. Board member Aguiar received an unanimous vote. Board member Volland nominated Dr. Tara L. Fikes as DSS Board Vice Chair. Dr. Fikes received an unanimous vote.~~

~~Board member Newman Aguiar offered a motion to re-open the DSS Board vacancy until filled and accept all applications. The DSS Board approved with an unanimous vote.~~

~~Members of the DSS Board will not be available in July to establish a quorum. The next meeting will be August 22, 2012.~~

~~Chair Stan Holt sent an email to staff informed them of the forth coming changes. Chair Holt acknowledged the excellent leadership of Interim Director Gail Perry. Chair Holt thanked the management team as well.~~

~~Chair Holt and Board members highlighted references received on the new director Michael Becketts. It was difficult to make the final decision on the candidates. The Board asks that staff will be open and accept the new director. The DSS Board recognized Interim Director Perry for~~

~~The DSS Board does not have a report this month.~~

~~Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.~~

Respectfully submitted

Chairperson

Date

Secretary to the Board

Date