

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES¹

Wednesday, 22 July 2020

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present: Jackie Scott (DCRS), Jay Prager (Dept of Health), Lt. Eric Kruhm (Vice and Narcotics Unit), Rich Gibson (Howard Co State's Attorney's Office), Dina Ward (Howard County Sheriff's Office), Yolanda Sonnier (Howard County Office of Human Rights), Stephen Liggett Creel (Howard County Dept of Social Services), Sara Smoley (Grassroots Crisis Intervention), Samantha Samuel-Nakka (HopeWorks), Savannah Khoury (HopeWorks), Rev. Delavago Scruggs, Leslie Lampieri and Jon Steurnagle (Howard County General Hospital/Hopkins), Jessica Epps (Howard County Commission for Women), Sara Cochran (Howard County AGAST), Lisa Davis (HCPSS), Andrew Heiliger, Chuck Chandler, Monica Krebs, Alicia Altamirano, Donna Bauer.

Members Absent: Lisa Myers (Howard County Chief of Police)

Howard County Government Officials in Attendance: Jackie Scott (Director, Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services), Cheryl Mattis (Deputy Director Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services)

Others in Attendance: Kathy Jordan, Leslie Petak, Cathy Leimenstoll, Karla Nemec (HoCo AGAST), Suellen Siegel, Phyllis Nash.

MEETING SUMMARY:

1. MEETING OPEN

- a. 3:15 pm; Andrea Nunez, Office of Human Trafficking Prevention Manager, called the meeting to order.

Ms. Nunez welcomed virtual attendees to the second official meeting of the Howard County Human Trafficking Prevention Coordination Council (HTPCC).

2. Consideration of the June 2020 Meeting Minutes

- a. Ms. Nunez entered the 22 JUNE 2020 Commission minutes onto the table and proposed approving the draft minutes. The HTPCC's inaugural first motion to approve the minutes was made by Del Scruggs and seconded by Andrew Heiliger. A voice vote of official members was taken and approved without opposition or abstentions.

3. Presentations

- a. Samantha Samuel-Nakka, Deputy Director of Services and Savanna Khoury, Case Manager: Provided an overview of HopeWorks' services for trafficking survivors. The PowerPoint was shared with members.

- b. Lt. Eric Kruhm, Howard County Police's Vice and Narcotics Unit (which includes the Human Trafficking Unit): Provided an overview of their work investigating trafficking cases, noting their victim-centered practices focused on services for survivors, and shared general trends about trafficking in the County.

4. June – July Events and Old Business

- a. HTPCC Rules of Procedure: Ms. Nunez proposed new language reducing the full HTPCC meeting frequency to bi-monthly, with the smaller, issue-focused Committees having the months in between meetings to conduct work and meet as necessary.

Del. Scruggs expressed support for this change. Other feedback was requested, none was voiced.

Ms. Nunez indicated the change would be made in the draft rules of procedure document that would be approved at the next full HTPCC meeting in September, with the opportunity to provide feedback via email requested by September 1.

- b. Committee Roles: Ms. Nunez then shared that Yolanda Sonnier volunteered to serve as Chair of the HTPCC and Del Scruggs volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair of the HTPCC for one-year terms (with the possibility of extension allowed). No other interest was expressed in the roles; a motion was made to hold a vote, seconded, and a voice vote was conducted. Only affirmative votes were heard without opposition or abstention.

Andrea reiterated that the Chair and Vice-Chair's roles will be to preside over meetings going forward and that she will fall back into the more traditional staff liaison role as the Rules of Procedure describe.

5. Announcements and Events of Importance

- a. August 31: HTPCC Training, Outreach and Partnerships Committee, 9:30 am – 10:30 am
- b. September 10: HTPCC Legislation and Policy Committee Virtual Meeting, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm
- c. September 16: HTPCC Real Estate Committee Virtual Meeting, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

6. Next Coordination Council Meeting Date(s)

- a. The next meeting of the Howard County Human Trafficking Prevention Coordination Council will be held on Thursday, 17 September 2020, starting at 1:00 pm. The meeting will be virtual.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

- a. The meeting concluded.
- b. Andrea pledged to promptly, 1) share the rules of procedure document and bus ad pictures, and 2) send HopeWorks' PowerPoint presentation to committee members.

Minutes were drafted by: Briana Davis



Notes:

- 1) The meeting was conducted virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Attachments:

- A) Meeting Notes: HTPCC Meeting; 22 June 2020