

**SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**January 31, 2018**  
**Akron Community Foundation**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Julie Barnes, Elizabeth Bartz, Malcolm Costa, Ken Douglas, John Garofalo, Elaine Harlin, Rick Kavenagh, Jim Lawrence, Nan McClenaghan, Jim Mullen, Brain Nelsen, Linda Omobien, Brad Schroeder, Karen Talbott, John Trunk, Sadie Winlock

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Roberta Aber, Jerry Craig, Terri Burns, Kady Downing, Richard Enty, Connie Krauss, Sandy Selby, Donna Skoda

**GUESTS:** Elizabeth Foster, Rich Marountas, Cory Kendrick, Rose DeBord, Jen Peveich

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Karen Talbott called the meeting to order at 12pm with a review of the September 2017 meeting minutes. There was a motion to approve by John Garofalo, second by Elaine Harlin and approved unanimously by voice vote. Karen also made note of new board member Terri Burns, who is the Director of SCDJFS and is replacing Pat Divoky.

**Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee**

Karen Talbott gave the Executive Committee report from the January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting which included setting the agenda for the January Board meeting and hearing the committee reports. One of the agenda items for the Executive Committee was vacant board seats. Karen has a meeting with Ilene Shapiro for the end of February to discuss the needs of the board and potential nominees.

Another item for consideration of the Board was the development of a Task Force to address the ongoing issue related to translation services in Summit County. The task force will hopefully represent all the entities in Summit County that use translation services to discuss ways to possibly save money and increase availability. It was reported that among the public agencies surveyed in 2015, Summit County spends approximately 1 million dollars a year on translation services.

John Garofalo suggested that there be some consideration of adding a member from the international community to the SSAB.

With no further discussion, the Board voted unanimously to develop the task force.

**Health and Human Services Committee**

Elaine Harlin gave the HHS report and started by recognizing Elaine Wiloshyn, a former SSAB member who passed away on Christmas Day as a pillar in the Summit County community who will be missed.

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Elaine asked Cory Kendrick to discuss the research SCPH has done around Tobacco 21 (T21). Cory referenced the T21 handout and the conversations that SCPH has had with the city of Columbus that recently passed an ordinance. SCPH has been discussing the feasibility and gathering research through discussions with Columbus, the City of Akron and County of Summit. This endeavor is still in very early stages. Sadie Winlock suggested that SCPH conduct a focus group with small business owners to get their buy-in if the time comes to move forward on this policy initiative.

Elizabeth Foster updated the group on the work around Youth Violence Prevention that is being coordinated through the City of Akron, Project Ujima and SCPH. The YVP Steering Committee has been working with Kent State University to conduct some data analysis using Akron Police Data to determine where the hotspots are, including time of day and time of year. This data should be available at the February meeting. The YVP Steering Committee has identified three areas to conduct strategic planning around: mentoring, recreation and re-entry. The goal is to have the plan completed by May.

Elaine asked Nan McClenaghan to give a short update on the activities of the Income Education Workforce Development Committee. Nan informed the group that the IEWD committee has been planning the Employer's Appreciation Summit in conjunction with the Agency Fair. This event is scheduled for March 6<sup>th</sup>. The Committee will also work on updating all materials in 2018.

Elaine informed the Board that there are some further activities needed to finalize SSAB strategies identified during the strategic planning sessions last year. The HHS Committee, and anyone else who is interested invited, will be scheduling a special meeting at the end of May to work through some of the details needed such as timelines, assignments etc.

**Budget and Levy Review Committee**

Elizabeth Bartz informed the Board that Budget and Levy will be meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> for the first time in 2018 to review how the year ended for each of the levy-funded agencies compared to what they projected the last time the committee met in September. Elizabeth also noted that Budget & Levy will be working this year to review the Summit County Children's Services (SCCS) levy.

There will also be a special meeting scheduled before May 30<sup>th</sup> to meet with SCCS to review the levy request and potentially approve it in time to get to County Council and Board of Elections in time. Julie Barnes informed the group that SCCS plans to go on the ballot for a renewal plus an increase in November. There was some general discussion about messaging and how to make sure the community understands the multitude of factors that have influenced the decision to ask for an increase.

Brian Nelsen informed the group that all three levy-funded agencies ended 2017 ahead of projections. Summit DD was approximately \$200,000 ahead of projections; SCCS was \$4million ahead of projections, a third of which is because of some Title XX money

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received from DJFS that wasn't built into the original estimate; ADM Board was \$3.5 ahead of projections.

Other Business/ Good of the Order

It was recommended by Elizabeth Bartz that the Board invite Ilene Shapiro to a meeting this year. There was no other business brought forward.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:50 PM.