

VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

July 25, 2024

Attendance: Shanquenetta Anderson, Wendy Ayala, Larry Center, Brian Koosed, Kathryn Pontzer, Jasmin Whitfield, Leah Schwartz, Alan Schulman.

Members Absent: Neda Bolourian.

Ex-Office Members Absent: Ellen Alexander

Support Staff: Dana Bell, Carla Bradley.

I. Additions to Agenda– Wendy Ayala

- No additions to Agenda.

II. Roll Call & Virtual Meeting Procedures– Shan Anderson

- The chair will call the roll to establish a quorum.

III. Approval of Minutes from Past Meetings– Wendy Ayala

- The June 18, 2024, Minutes were approved.
- Motion – Brian; Second- Shan.

IV. Executive Subcommittee Update– Shan Anderson

- Shan and Kathryn attended the last CJCC meeting.
- Kathryn remarked that whoever her replacement is on the CJCC will also need to be committed to be part of the Legislative Subcommittee.
- The board discussed the use of drones to help shorten police response times and some of the issues such as cost and privacy concerns.
 - a. Update on CJCC or other Meetings – Kathryn, Neda, others.**
 - There are two meeting left for the CJCC, one in September and the last one is in November.

V. Legislative Subcommittee Update (10 Minutes) – Kathryn Pontzer

- One of the goals is looking into local competency programs for prisoners not competent to stand trial.
- Also trying to get some programs into the Montgomery County Public School System to help with the increase in juvenile crime.
- The Legislative Subcommittee will also focus on the rise in robberies.
- Shan updated the board on the some of the issues the judges were facing with the increase in certain crimes.
- Katherine discussed the new Juvenile Justice Reform Bill and how it addressed the lack of accountability and some pre-trial and detention changes.

VI. Update on Vacancies (15 Minutes) – Brian Koosed

- The past six weeks, Neda and Brian interviewed a total of seven appointed board candidates.
- There are eight more spots for board candidates left.
- Last week, the board member interviewed three additional candidates for the board.
- Heather resigned yesterday and his position will be added for interviews.
- Four candidates have been approved.

VII. Annual Report — Wendy Ayala & Shan Anderson

- Brian has a meeting with MCASA, SALI and JCADA next week.
- The goal is to assign the section that needs to be drafted and assign a deadline for survey collection in mid-August.
- The board is going to use the Goggle Forms to help organize priorities and survey information.

VIII. Public Affairs/Events Subcommittee updates– Leah Schwartz & Neda Bolourian

- Leah asked the members of the board to share photos or comments about any events that they attended.

IX. Announcements/Comments/New Business

- Heather submitted her resignation to the board.
- September meeting will be in person.

Next Meeting:

September 26, 2024, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM (in person)