

# VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

March 28, 2024

**Attendance:** Shanquenetta Anderson, Neda Balourian, Brian Koosed, Larry Center, Kathryn Pontzer, Alan Schulman, Leah Schwartz.

**Members Absent:** Wendy Ayala, Heather Thompson, Jasmin Whitfield.

**Ex-Office Members Absent:** Ellen Alexander,

**Support Staff:** Linda Lochner and Carla Bradley.

## I. Additions to Agenda

No additions to Agenda.

## II. Roll Call & Virtual Meeting Procedures– Neda Bolourian

The rules for a virtual Board meeting are as follows:

- The chair will call the roll to establish a quorum.
- Members need to identify themselves when they are talking.
- Members may be asked to identify anyone who is present with them during the call.
- The public may be asked to mute the call on their end to avoid interruptions.
- The public may be muted by the chair.
- Public bodies might wish to consider including any ground rules in the meeting notice.

## III. Approval of Minutes from February 22 Meeting– Neda

- The February 22 Minutes were approved with some minor changes.

## IV. Executive Subcommittee Update– Brian

Update on County Council Meetings – Brian, Kathryn, Shan

- Shan updated VSAB about the meeting with Council member Jawando.
- Christina Neidlinger (Legislative Aide) discussed how VSAB and County Council could benefit each other.
- They discussed several programs and spoke of the council members interest in mentorship for young people, promoting education for them and spoke about transitional housing.

Update on County Executive Follow-Ups – Brian

- Brian followed up with Christine Hong (Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness), there are no updates.
- Leah discussed bridge housing and the use of tiny homes.

Update on CJCC and Other Meetings – Kathryn, Leah, & others

- One of the primary discussions of the CJCC was the truancy issue and the challenges they have in the courts, including being short-staffed with so many court cases.
- There are also issues arising between law enforcement and the school districts.
- Another significant element of the report addressed the increase in long term rehab hospital beds for incarcerated individuals in mental health crisis.
- The CJCC discussed forming two subcommittees, one having a legislative focus and the other with a focus on Juvenile Justice Trends.

- Sherriff Max Uy will update Kathryn at the next meeting about questions she had about the scope of the commission's efforts and about enabling legislation.

**V. Legislative Subcommittee Update– Kathryn**

- Kathryn listed the six bills that crossed chambers and that have a good chance of passing.
- There are two good bills that the board didn't support; one proposes certification for domestic violence programs and the second concerns protective orders for stalking cases.
- Kathryn will update the board on which bills passed after the next meeting in April.

**VI. Transitions– Brian and Neda**

- The June 2024 meeting will be Brian's last meeting as co-chair.
- Brian encourages the VSAB members to consider serving as chair and/or co-chairs.
- Beth, from the County Ex. Office (CEO) requested an update on current and former board members from the past two years.

**VII. Ideas for Guest Speakers and Other Issues to Address at Future Meetings**

- The board members are looking for guest speakers who align with the mission and work of the VSAB.
- The board members discussed several potential guest speakers.

**VIII. Annual Report – Update on Timing/Survey– Brian/Neda**

- Brian will circulate the survey that was previously used with the agenda for the next meeting.

**IX. Membership/Vacancies and Updating Website– Brian**

- VSAB has 17 available positions.

**X. Public Affairs/Events Subcommittee updates– Leah**

- April is one of the busy months for public affairs events.
- Leah will send a list of events to Trauma Services to have a table at those events.
- VSAB discussed using digital brochures that can be linked from the website.
- Leah will create an Instagram page for Trauma Services to approve so that board members can use this page to reach different populations.

Next Meeting:

April 25, 2024, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM