FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF DD

October 13, 2021

5:30 PM BOARD MEETING

FAIRGROUNDS FINE ART BUILDING

The Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities met in regular session at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at the Fairgrounds Fine Arts Building. Board Members present: Mitchell Kirby, Larry Mayer, David Sanders and Ben Snodgrass. Absent: Cody Kirkpatrick, Mark Heiny and Nicholas Miller

Others present were Debra Buccilla, Superintendent, Sherry Burns, Ex. Admin. Assistant, Lori Moore, Business Director, Larry Gray, Operations Director, Renee Guess, SSA Director, Bret Malone, Educational Director, Chad Blakeley and Constance Jean Enochs.

**ROLL CALL**: Mitchell Kirby, present; Cody Kirkpatrick, absent, Benjamin Snodgrass, present, Nicholas Miller, absent, Mark Heiny, absent, David Sanders, present; Larry Mayer, present.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** None

**The minutes of the September 15, 2021** Regular Board Meeting were tabled until the November Meeting. There was not a quorum to approve.

**New Vendors: No new vendors for September**

**Transfers and Advances: None**

**Monthly expenditures for October 2021- Lori Moore, Business Director**

A motion by David Sanders seconded by Mitchell Kirby to approve the October Financials. Roll Call. All yea, motion carried.

**Roll Call: Mitchell Kirby, yea, Ben Snodgrass, yea, Larry Mayer, yea, David Sanders, yea,**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

* The Caryl Wagner Bookman Center or the Caryl Center has been completed. There was an article and pictures in the Record Herald on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 which stated that the Fayette County Board of Developmental Disabilities paid tribute to Caryl by naming their Administrative Office Building in her honor.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Project/Housing Update: Larry Gray, Operations Director**

* Metro Housing has two purchased two building lots. One is complete and the other in progress.
* We did sell the home at 1120 Fayette Street and the proceeds were used toward paying off the Vine Street home and for the development of the first new home.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Strategic Plan Update- Debra Buccilla, Superintendent**

* **Goal #2 - Financial Perspective (Initiatives and Progress)**

Objective #1 was to establish and 5-year budget projection. We have completed a cost projection tool and sent to DODD.

Objective #2 was to manage operational overheard in accordance with annual budget. We did establish departmental budgets but quarterly budget meetings were put on hold because of COVID.

Objective #3 was to enhance revenue streams as opportunities were available. Help Me Grow was awarded $50,000 grant through a local partnership. Metropolitan Housing has received $369,000 toward the purchase of four homes and $160,000 forrenovation and repairs in the past two years. In 2021, Metro Housing has been awarded $275,000 to purchase two homes, $510,000 toward construction of two new single-family homes and $230,152 toward renovationand repair costs of four homes.

Objective $4 was to manage administrative office relocation but was vacated due to financial constraints.

* **Goal #3 - Employee Perspective (Initiatives and Progress)**

Objective #1 was to initiate a wellness atmosphere to promote healthy lifestyles but the wellness program, ergonomic evaluations of workspace were suspended because of the pandemic.

Objective #2 was to promote educational opportunities to enhance professional development. Quarterly lunch and learns were not completed because of the pandemic. We have however, participated in positive Parenting Training from Children’s Hospital.

Objective #3 was to initiate a salary and benefit study to determine salary comparisons with like agencies. We did survey other County Boards of DD and local employers with similar positions, but we did not compare our agency with national studies.

**Starting Gate Discussion – Debra Buccilla, Superintendent**

* Discussion was held regarding the origins of the building and its intent to serve as a center for childhood services for the county. There appears to be many unmet needs for children throughout the county and a question was raised if the expansion of services would be fiscally possible. In addition, the physical structure of the building was discussed. At face value, the building looks very good however, the infrastructure including mechanicals have presented challenges from the beginning. It was agreed that fiscally the Board did not have the resources to expand services and the building itself was not worth any additional dollars if expansion were to occur sometime in the future.

**Pre-School Update/Tuition – Bret Malone, Educational Director**

* A comparison of tuition was conducted between Fayette Christian, Grace Methodist, Cherry Hill Primary, Kids World of Learning (KWOL), Fayette Head Start and Rock-a-bye and we found that our tuition was the lowest in the county for the services that was received. Our fee is $150 a month without transportation or $1,500 a year. With transportation it is $223.50 a month.
* We currently have 63 students and by January 2022 we project to be up to 76 students.
* We have one teacher and one aide per classroom four days a week. Teachers are licensed through ODE and aides either must have an Associates Degree or pass the Paraprofessional Test.
* Starting Gate has not been closed this school year however, we did operate a virtual schedule one day due to a bus driver shortage. We received one complaint about the tuition due to the one virtual day.

**Board Member Interest 2022- Debra Buccilla, Superintendent**

* We will need two new board members for 2022. Constance Enochs is here tonight to observe a board meeting and see if she would be interested in being a candidate. We also have two other candidates who have expressed interest.

**Direct Service Professional (DSP) Crisis- Renee Guess**

* Renee Guess, SSA Director provided the board with a presentation with updates on the current DSP crisis which is occurring in Fayette County and across the state.
* We are coordinating paid supports to 101 people, adults and children and there are seven agencies and eight independent providers that are currently providing these supports.
* Provider agencies are covering most services with their DSPs in overtime status. Providers are not able to take on new people, with a couple of providers looking to reduce services they are providing due to lack of staffing.
* The SSAs are working with teams on other ways that people’s needs can be met including, increasing technology and remote supports, directly connecting people to employment and community opportunities and finding respite and volunteers.
* Multiple efforts are happening to support providers from the county board and from DODD.

Larry Mayer FCBDD President adjourned the Fayette County Board of DD Board Meeting at 6:35 pm.

Prepared by: Sherry Burns, Ex. Administrative Assistant

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Larry Mayer, President Mark Heiny, Secretary