

**CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION**  
**MEETING NOTES – JANUARY 13, 2021**  
**VIRTUAL**

**ATTENDANCE**

Councilman Canek Aguirre	Kate Garvey	Davina Littles	Javan Owens
Ingrid Bynum	Angela Green	Jamica Littles	Dianara Saget
Dana Chambers	Nicola Harris	Mike Mackey	Christina Sherlock
Jessica Cuddy	Garrison Hayes	Annabelle O’Keefe	Lou Whiting
Rose Dawson	Claudette Haynes	Kelley Organek	
Laura Durham	Amanda Hazelwood	Maile Organek	

**Excused Absent**

Jacinta Greene	Heather Thornton
J. Glenn Hopkins	Justin Williams
Kurt Huffman	
Councilwoman Amy Jackson	

**Staff**

Shawn Brown	Chelsea Eickert
Noraine Buttar	Dr. Stacey Hardy-Chandler
Robin Crawley	

**Guest:**

Allen Lomax

**WELCOME**

Kelley Organek welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT NOVEMBER MINUTES**

Meeting minutes from December were reviewed and approved.

**OLD BUSINESS – COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACE AND EQUITY**

The Commission discussed importance of race and equity conversations and that the community must work together to establish relationships with one another, and to understand the history of Alexandria. Kelley suggested that it may be necessary to form a planning committee to begin a dialogue around race and equity. Many pitched in with ideas about the planning committee; the notion was mentioned that it is important work to have conversations with one another, and also to overcome the virtual aspect of the current environment. Another suggestion was to ensure that the CYMP uses inclusive verbiage, ensuring that it considers concerns of every community member and establishes firm criteria/metrics to measure how effectiveness of the implementation. A motion was made to form an Ad Hoc committee on Race and Equity. The motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS - CYMP PLAN APPROVAL**

The Commission reviewed the CYMP for fatal flaws and finding none voted to approve the Plan. Next steps include sending the Plan to City Council and the School Board for endorsement.

Chelsea informed the Commission of a recent hole in the plan that had been filled; Ensuring that children of immigrant families had access to resources they needed, through the immigrant and refugee work group in DCHS.

#### **NEW BUSINESS - CYMP COMMUNICATION PLAN**

Kelley initiated a review of the Communication Plan and noted that there is a need to ensure both cultural and linguistic accessibility. There was a motion to form a second Ad Hoc committee on Communications. The motion passed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS - FEEDBACK FOR COORDINATED COMMUNITY RECOVERY PLAN**

Noraine shared the Power Point slides that were presented at the recent Council meeting. Commissioners appreciated the ten recommendations listed in the plan. There was a question about whether there was a need to include education. It was noted that educational outcomes are described in ACPS' strategic plan, ACPS 2025.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The 48th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Program will take place on January 15 It will feature remarks by Mayor Justin Wilson, a keynote address by former Virginia Governor L. Douglas Wilder, and more.

January is National Mentoring Month; look out for opportunities with the Alexandria Mentoring Program.

Allen Lomax said that information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine will be distributed to the community, including information on registering for the vaccine.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.