

## ESSEX COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

THURSDAY, September 29, 2022

2:00PM - via ZOOM

Attendees: Kesha Manning, Anthony Higgans, Michelle Callari, David Sims, Dr. Pederson, Jessica Torres, Director Ramos, Director Hughes, Tyrone Hunter, Lori Scott- Pickens, Samantha Washington, Colette DeGrazia, Apryl Caldwell, Shelton Thurman, Kenneth Douglas, LaQuanda Williams, Amy Godfrey, Gino Arevalo, Jason Martinez, Ron Small

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This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 -10:4-21. Notice of this meeting has been provided on the Essex County Website.

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### Agenda Item I

#### Reading of the Open Public Meetings Act

#### Approval of Minutes – July 21, 2022

Director Ramos asked for a roll call of voting members which was administered by Administrator Martinez. It was determined that there was a quorum. The Open Public Meeting Act was read by Director Anibal Ramos. Director Ramos asked for a motion to approve the minutes July 21, 2022. Lori Scott-Pickens motioned to approve the minutes from July 21, 2022, Shelton Thurman 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

#### Subcommittee Reports

**Planning Committee** - LaQuanda Williams stated that Jason Martinez will be submitting the report today.

**Monitoring Committee** – Lori Scott Perkins thanked Jason for his leadership in getting the monitoring done because it is a very important and detailed process. Thanked the JJC staff particularly Ron small and Amanda Compton-Dover. Most of all thanks to those members and non-members for their participation. They have completed all of the programs except one which is the prosecutor's office "What's it All About" program which is scheduled on December 16<sup>th</sup> and is a in person event at NJIT. We will be attending the program. They scored 15 programs and everyone did fairly well. There are three programs that they have recommendations and corrective action plans that need to take place. Programs have been given 30 days to the end of the year for recommendations and one corrective action plan.

Director Ramos thanked the Chair for her efforts and hard work along with the committee. Monitoring the programs has been a struggle over the years for participation. He asked for members to assist in the process and to see the Administrator if interested.

**Allocations Committee** – Michelle Callari reported there was an emailed sent out earlier which informed every one of the recommendation to include the MDTs and the Home Detention Monitors included in the 1/3 set aside which will do away with the intergovernmental agreement. They are all County employees and it may look like a drastic reduction but it is not. In 2002 they funded \$232,894.00 and for next year the funding will be \$166,424.00. This is not a reduction in services, they will remain the same. The dollars for the 4<sup>th</sup> monitor will be distributed for additional programs. This funded amount will now increase to \$437,000.00 upon JJC approval of the Plan application. Once approved they will RFP out the funds to receive additional programming. They have also made the recommendation that the Re-Entry program not be funded due to the small amount of the \$7500.00 can also be used towards new options for programs. Director Ramos stated that will take action on that item later on in the agenda. He also commended the Chair and her committee by proposing the reallocation for some of the expenses from partnership to the 1/3 set aside creating more resources for programming and the target population will benefit from also that we serve. He thanked her and her

committee. Michelle Callari also added that there was an increase in their funding as well due to the third Judge coming on board which will increase their work load.

Administrator Martinez reported on the Planning Committee. He stated that there are no new changes with the exception of JJC asking to include more community participation and participation with the youth and family participation assisting in the planning process.

Director Ramos thanked the Administrator for the summary and asked if it was provided in writing to the Commissioners regarding the Plan update of 2023. The administrator responded in the affirmative. Director asked if anyone had any questions at this time. Seeing none he moved on to the next action items.

#### **Action Item I**

##### **1/3 Set Aside**

Motioned by LaQuanda Williams and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lori Scott Pickens. Motion passed in the affirmative with 15 Members approving and 2 abstentions.

#### **Action Item II**

##### **2023 Plan Update**

Motioned by Gino Arevelo and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lori Scott Pickens. Motion passed in the affirmative with 18 members approving with an all in favor signify by saying Aye or Yes.

#### **Action Item III**

##### **2023 Plan Application**

Motioned by Lori Scott Pickens and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Hughes. Motion passed in the affirmative with 17 Members approving and 1 abstentions.

##### **Updates:**

There were none.

##### **JJC Updates:**

There were none.

##### **Public and Commissioner Announcements:**

Jasmine Joseph Fordman announced that the League Charter School is recruiting for those 15-21 who are behind in high school and off track to receive their High School Diploma prior to aging out. Located at 201 Bergen Street in Newark, NJ

Anthony Higgans advised of the expudgement program that is offered to citizens and that the process is much easier than before and can go to the website to complete. Lori Scott Pickens asked if Mr. Higgans and Ms. Callari are available to speak about the program to the community. Both are available to do so.

Director Ramos asked for a motion to adjourn. Apryl Caldwell moved and LaQuanda Williams second the motion.