

ESSEX COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, February 15, 2024

2:00PM - via ZOOM

Attendees: **Hon. Philip Degnan**, Co-Chairman of the Essex County Youth Services Commission – Family Part of the Superior Court, **Kesha Manning**, Kenneth James- Family Division, **Ana Rivera**- Chief Probation Officer, **Anthony Higgins** – County Prosecutor Office, **Michelle Callari** - County Public Defender, **Lenora Humphrey** – County DCP&P District Manager, **Rosi Hermida** – Superintendent of the County Vocational School, **Jessica Torres** – Youth Shelter Director, **Dennis Huges**, Todd Barcliff – Youth Detention Center Detention, **Tyrone Hunter** – Juvenile Family Crisis Intervention Unit-Director, **Lt. John Henriques** – President- Juvenile Officers Association or other law enforcement representative who works primarily with youth/Police, **Colette DeGrazia** – County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Director, **Pam Ross** – Workforce Investment Board Representative, **Adejobi Odeneye** – Business Representative, **Monique Wilson** – Parent or parent organization, **Shelton Thurman** – Community Youth, **Lori Scott-Pickens**, Jasmine Joseph-Forman – Education Sector, **LaQuanda Williams** – Mental health, family counseling, child advocacy, domestic violence, and/or victims’ rights groups, **Rev. Bernard Wilkes**– Clergy, **Michele Richards** – The Minority Concerns Vicinage Advisory, **Kenneth Douglass** – Civic Organizations, **Samantha Washington** – Representatives of major urban areas within the county, **Gino R. Arevalo** – Other interested persons who deal with children. **Amanda Compton Dover**, **Ron Small** – Court Liaison - Juvenile Justice Commission, Syreeta Shepherd– Juvenile Justice Commission, **Taieta El-Amin** – Community Engagement, Division of Training & Employment, Edward Morris – New Community Corporation, Erica Cashew, Newark Public School, Altarik White – Leaders for Life, Shanique Pace- Newark Municipal Court, Davis Sims – Safe Babies, Alica Holman, Flohisha Johnson – MDT, Nayellie Collazo, **Jason Martinez**, Administrator of Youth Services Commission.

“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.”

Reading of the Open Public Meetings Act Approval of Minutes –

February 15, 2024

Judge Philip Degnan 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 Judge Degnan. Judge Degnan asked for a motion to approve the minutes November 16th, 2023. Pamela Ross Cohen motioned to approve the minutes and Lori Scott Pickens 2nd the motion. Minutes were unanimously adopted.

Action Items:

Action Item I

2024 Juvenile Justice Programs Michelle Callari stated that the allocation committee was able to meet and discuss the program proposals. As of now, five programs have endorsed by the committee and is seeking approval from the YSC for the following programs: the South Orange Police Academy, the West Orange Police Academy, Probation 's Youth Engagement Program the Essex County Prosecutor's Internship Program and Youth Conference.

Essex County Prosecutor's What it all about Conference for a total amount of \$18,000.00.

✓ Administrator Martinez asked for asked for a rollcall to vote on the approval Essex County Prosecutor Youth Conference: What's it All About program for a total amount of \$18,000.00. This vote was passed with 15 yes and 7 abstained.

Essex County Prosecutor's Internship Program for a total amount of \$43,628.00.

✓ Administrator Martinez asked for asked for a rollcall to vote on the approval Essex County Prosecutor Internship Program for a total amount of \$43,628.00. This vote was passed with 15 yes and 7 abstained.

Township of South Orange's South Orange Police Junior Academy for a total amount of \$13,000.00

✓ Administrator Martinez asked for asked for a rollcall to vote on the approval for the South Orange Police Academy Program for a total amount of \$13,000.00. This vote was passed with 19 yes and 3 abstained.

Township of West Orange's West Orange Police Junior Academy for a total amount of \$28,000.00.

✓ Administrator Martinez asked for asked for a rollcall to vote on the approval for the West Orange Police Academy Program for a total amount of \$28,000.00. This vote was passed with 21 yes and 1 abstained.

Probation (Youth Engagement Program) for a total amount of \$15,000.00.

✓ Administrator Martinez asked for asked for a rollcall to vote on the approval for the Probation (Youth Engagement Program) for a total amount of \$15,000.00. This vote was passed with 19 yes and 3 abstained.

Action Item II

Budget Modification for GPS Units using unallocated funds for a total amount of \$15,251.30.

Budget Modification for GPS Units Michelle Callari stated that there was over expenditure for the GPS Units in the total amount of \$15,251.30. She continued to state that the allocation group suggested utilizing the funding from the unallocated funds to cover the over expenditure.

✓ Administrator Martinez asked for asked for a rollcall to vote on the approval for budget modification for the GPS Units using the unallocated funds from 2023 for a total amount of \$15,521.30. This vote was passed with 19 yes and 2 abstained.

Action Item III

Budget Modification Partnership 1/3 Set-Aside: Michelle Callari stated that for 2024, the fringe increased from 41.14% to 41.76%. To cover the HDM & MDT fringe, funds were transferred from the MDT office and equipment line.

ECYSC Updates: Administrator Martinez stated that the next ECYSC meeting will be held on March 21st, 2024, to discuss the number of programs that were voted and approved on. He also stated that with the new regulations from JJC, ECYSC will have to update their bylaws. There will be some changes towards ECYSC membership, this includes changes to chairmen.

Restorative and Transformation Justice for Youths and Communities Pilot Program

Updates: Administrator Martinez stated that last Monday (02/12), the RTJ had a ribbon cutting ceremony highlighting UCC's opening for the RTJ Pilot Program. He also stated that UCC was the first organization to open an RTJ Pilot Program in NJ. For the next ECYSC meeting, Administrator Martinez stated that Jaqueline Henry from UCC would give additional information for RTJ Pilot Program.

Juvenile Justice Commission Announcement:

No further updates.

Public and/or Youth Service Commissioner Announcements:

No further updates.

Judge Degnan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Lori Scott-Pickens and 2nd by Director Hughes.