



FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

RECORD OF ACTION FOR
OCTOBER 22, 2018

Supervisor Candace Andersen, Chair
Supervisor John Gioia, Vice Chair

Present: Candace Andersen, Chair
John Gioia, Vice Chair

Staff Present: Timothy Ewell, Chief Asst. County Administrator

Attendees: Julia Taylor, County Admin Office
Kathy Gallagher, EHS Director
Victoria Tolbert, EHSD
Camilla Rand, EHSD
Juliana Mondragon, EHSD
Members, SEIU, Local 1021
Members, Local 21

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1. Introductions

Chair Andersen convened the meeting at 10:35 a.m. and self-introductions were made around the room.

2. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Committee and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to three minutes).

The Committee accepted public comment. Four Speakers: One regarding Local 21, and three regarding SEIU 1021, all addressed the issues of high health insurance costs for Contra Costa County employees and high caseloads.

3. RECEIVE and APPROVE the draft Record of Action for the September 24, 2018 Family & Human Services Committee meeting.

The Committee approved the Record of Action for the September 24, 2018 meeting as presented.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair John Gioia
Passed

4. RECOMMEND to the Board of Supervisors the appointment of Olga Jones to the At Large 5 seat on the Family and Children's Trust Committee to a new term that will expire on September 30, 2020.

The Committee approved the appointment of Olga Jones to the At Large 5 seat on the Family and Children's Trust Committee to a term that will expire on September 30, 2020, and directed staff to forward the recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair John Gioia
Passed

5. RECOMMEND to the Board of Supervisors the appointment of Joan M. D'Onofrio to the At Large 3 seat and Lanita L. Mims to the At Large 4 seat on the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County (AC5), as recommended by AC5.

The Committee approved the appointment of Joan M. D'Onofrio to the At Large 3 seat and Lanita L. Mims to the At Large 4 seat on the Arts and Culture Commission (AC5) to terms that will expire on June 30, 2021, and directed staff to forward the recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair John Gioia
Passed

6. ACCEPT the report from the Employment and Human Services Department on aging and adult services, including the progress made to address the issue of elder abuse in Contra Costa County.

Employment and Human Services Department, Aging and Adult Services Director, Victoria Tolbert, presented the report. Ms. Tolbert reported that the two major challenges facing the aging population are housing insecurity and poverty. Ms. Tolbert explained that Aging and Adult Services offers a continuum of services that address a range of needs. Examples of services include putting safety features in the home, a Whole Person Care program for individuals with significant medical issues, adult protective services, and "no wrong door".

Supervisor Andersen asked what number people should call for support: It is 1-800-510-2020. Ms. Tolbert reported that awareness of this number has increased. Supervisor Andersen supported increasing awareness of this number.

An internal challenge to the Department that Ms. Tolbert reported on was the shortage of direct services staff, particularly social workers and in-home support services staff. She indicated that it is a priority with Kathy Gallagher, David Twa and Human Resources. Also, the Department is working on placing more energy into staff development to internally build the needed knowledge and skill sets.

Aging and Adult Services is working to identify non-licensed facilities and help them achieve licensing to increase supply. An option discussed was creating a County certification, so if they cannot obtain a state license, they come out of the

shadows and have some oversight.

Another issue discussed was hospital discharges lacking safe locations to which to discharge. Aging and Adult Services coordinates with discharge planners and hospitals to coordinate safe discharges. Possible legislation would ban hospital discharges to shelters without an available bed. Senior specific shelters would help to close the capacity gap.

The department made a final request for the Board of Supervisors to engage in supporting and spreading awareness about these services.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair John Gioia

Passed

7. ACCEPT the report from the Employment and Human Services Department on the oversight and activities of the Community Services Bureau.

Employment and Human Services Department, Community Services Bureau Director Camilla Rand presented the report. One item reported on was the closing of one Richmond child service facility and seeking relocation for the Central Kitchen. The Kitchen currently produces about 40,000 meals each month.

A positive legislative change discussed was the consolidation of childcare license to requiring one for ages 0 to 5.

An internal challenge to the Department that Victoria Tolbert reported on was the shortage of staff. One tactic for addressing the staff shortage is additional staff development through a Teacher Apprenticeship program.

Ms. Rand notified Supervisor Andersen that three reviews are expected this year, and they will want to interview the Board of Supervisors. The Board will need to be versed in programmatic details.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair John Gioia

Passed

8. ACCEPT report from the Employment and Human Services Director on the Department's use of technology to support client services and staff efficiencies.

Employment and Human Services Department, Administrative Services Director Michael Roetzer presented the report. Mr. Roetzer reported on some of the technological advancements EHSD has made, including: video conferencing for American Sign Language customers, redesigning the website, expanding video conferencing in lieu of in-person or over the phone for increased efficiency and effectiveness, using electronic signatures on certain forms, getting mobile devices to more in-home supportive services staff, and encouraging clients to use My Benefits in CalWIN for case updates.

AYE: Chair Candace Andersen, Vice Chair John Gioia

Passed

9. The November 26, 2018 FHS Committee meeting is canceled due to schedule conflicts. The date for the final 2018 meeting is yet to be determined.

The final FHS Committee meeting has been scheduled for Monday, December 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 101.

10. Adjourn

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