

**Joint Meeting of the Racine County
Health and Human Development Committee and Human Services Board
Monday, January 11, 2021
Virtual**

HHD Present: Jason Eckman, Eric Hopkins, Scott Maier, Fabi Maldonado, Robert Miller,
Jody Spencer

HSB Present: Scott Maier, Rhonda Zuck

YIG Present: Sophia Schoenfeld, Sarah Stone

Staff Present: Jonathan Delagrave, Melvin Hargrove, Kristin Latus, Hope Otto, Beth Tangerstrom,
Gwen Zimmer

Excused: Susan Lange-Pruitt, Don Trottier

Chairman Comments/Youth In Governance Statement

Following technical issues, Chairman Maier called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

Public Comment Section

There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes from the October 26, 2020 Joint Meeting of the Racine County Health and Human Development Committee & Human Services Board and Approval of Minutes from the November 10, 2020 Racine County Health and Human Development Committee Meeting

Sup. Eckman moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Sup. Maldonado seconded.

Ms. Zuck moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Chairman Maier seconded.

Motion carried.

Report No. 2020-47 – Report by the County Executive Making a Reappointment to the Veterans Service Commission

Sup. Maldonado motioned to approve. Sup. Eckman seconded.

Motion carried.

Report No. 2020-48 – Report by the County Executive Making an Appointment and Reappointments to the Racine County Workforce Development Board

Sup. Maldonado moved to approve. Sup. Eckman seconded.

Motion carried.

Race Equity and Inclusion Update

Pastor Hargrove referenced his role as the Uplift 900 Manager, described the various services offered and events held to help individuals overcome barriers to employment. Pastor Hargrove will continue to supervise Uplift 900 as he also takes on a new role as the Community Impact and Diversity Coordinator. His new role is to lead the charge of addressing race and equity issues in the community.

Pastor Hargrove shared the phrase, REI leads to better ROI for our employers and our community. Racine County Human Services Department has already started REI staff training. Pastor Hargrove described how his role has evolved throughout the process, presented a PP, and outlined new initiatives.

Pastor Hargrove also provided an overview of restorative justice work being done in partnership with DA Hanson. Director Otto added further detail and asked members to share best practices or models they are aware of, suggestions, and feedback.

Discussion ensued regarding the importance of sustainable family wages, diversion to incarceration services, the referral system and how programs, information, and opportunities are being shared with the community. Members were asked to share suggestions they may have for how to reach out to the community. Director Otto informed members of a new position that will focus on broader community engagement. Members were asked for referrals if they have a candidate.

Sup. Maldonado asked how to involve state representatives in addressing the issue of Racine being labeled as the worst place for African Americans since it is a statewide issue. Questions: How can they legally help with criminal justice; how can they assist with race and equity issues that are systemic? Response: Director Otto asked Supervisor Miller and Chairmen Maier how advocacy with the State works to ensure board protocols are followed, Chairman Maier said they would look into the proper channels.

Sup. Maldonado also referenced work that he and Sup. Demske have done with a group called Local Progress regarding criminal justice that he can share and have presented to the County Board.

Pastor Hargrove and Director Otto answered Sup. Spencer's questions about apprenticeship trades being included in diversity and equity and black owned businesses applying for contracts.

Budget Overview

Director Otto presented an overview of Human Services' budget. Sup. Miller asked if we are going to make any effort to contact the Journal Times and/or have a commentary using the graphic produced so the community is aware of this. Chairman Maier agreed to prepare a message to publish. Director Otto agreed, and continued asking to the pleasure of Chairman and Vice Chairman to maybe refer this to County Board where typically the press is present, she would present her budget and future strategies like she typically does in February. Sup. Miller agreed the full County Board should be aware of this as well. Chairman Maier with the help of Sup. Miller will do some outreach and get it on the agenda.

Correspondence and Other Business

Chairman Maier asked to have the handouts sent to members.

Next Meeting Date – Monday, February 8, 2021, 5:00 p.m., virtual.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Action Items

- Send presentations to members

Respectfully submitted by,

Kimberly R. Bartel