

**THE GREATER HAMPTON ROADS HIV HEALTH SERVICE  
PLANNING COUNCIL  
Community Access Committee Meeting Notes  
Meeting Held Via Zoom – Wednesday, August 10, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order:**

The Community Access Committee meeting, was called to order at 6:05 p.m. The following participants were in attendance:

**In Attendance:**

Yasmine Black  
Ruth Fordham  
Gregg Fordham  
Lynea Hogan  
LaQuasia Cotton  
Meyoni Beale  
Darnell Barrington

**P.C. Support Staff:**

Deryk M. Jackson  
Teresa Malilwe

**Absent Members:**

Dr. Michael Bane  
Lexus Walker

**Moment of Silent Reflection:**

A moment of silent reflection was observed for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

The committee agreed to review and vote for the minutes from the last meeting at the September committee meeting..

**Review Planning Council Activity Timeline:**

- Review P-CAT for Progress
- Compile unresolved Issues in Parking Lot
- Host Quarterly Consumer Forum
- Review Results of the Consumer Satisfaction Survey

**Old Business:**

**Statewide Consumer Retreat:**

The Co-Chair noted that this was the last meeting before the scheduled Statewide Consumer Retreat. In the interim, the committee:

- Sent out the application acceptance letters. Currently, the committee is finalizing the list of participants. Individuals have up to August 15<sup>th</sup> to confirm their participation in the Retreat.

The committee received a total of fifty-one (51) applicants:

- 23 from the Eastern Region
- 6 from the Northern Region
- 6 from Southwest Region

- 15 from the Central Region. However, it was noted that, within the fifteen, one was a duplicate and the other was from the Eastern Region. There were, therefore,
- 13 from the Central Region.
- 2 from Southwest

The committee was concerned that there were not a lot of younger people that applied to participate for the Retreat. Currently, there were only two applicants under 30 years of age and two who are a little over 30 years old on the list of registered participants. The committee was asked to encourage younger people or people who are newly diagnosed to register to participate in the Retreat.

The committee was in the process of securing transportation for participants from the Eastern Region. All participants from the Central Region had transportation. Only one from the Northern Region requested transportation and two from the Southwestern Region.

Arrangements were made for participants who requested transportation to be picked up from two locations. The first pick up would be at:

- 800 East Virginia Beach Blvd, in Norfolk at 6:45 a.m. on Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>

The second pick up would be at:

- An address downtown Newport News at about 7:45 a.m.

The bus will then head up to Wakefield for the event which is scheduled to start at 10:00 a.m.

The Ad Hoc committee will still meet to tie up the loose ends including finalizing the agenda. One participant asked to include a discussion on the Monkeypox. The agenda will be emailed to the committee for feedback if need be. The committee is still receiving requests for accessible rooms from individuals with mobility problems.

Currently, the committee was discussing activities for participants to do during down time. Any suggestions to add to the list of activities from the committee were welcome.

The committee received some promotional materials from the following agencies in the Eastern Region:

- M.A.S.S.
- EVMS
- LGBT Life Center
- Urban League

The committee was still waiting for responses from agencies in the other Regions. Thank You cards went out to Agencies that have, so far, made donations towards the Retreat.

The committee was also working on finalizing the menu. As sponsors of the Statewide Retreat, Ms. Scott from VDH indicated that she would do a prepared video that will be beamed into the Retreat. Gregg will get confirmation from VDH regarding representation at the Retreat and will, subsequently, inform the committee.

The committee was working on the allocation of rooms; that is, individuals who would like to share rooms, and those that are married and/or have partners. Participants will be required to sign confidentiality forms.

It was not that there was no policy mandating COVID-19 vaccination as a requirement at the Retreat. However, in consideration for other participants, masks will be encouraged.

The Co-Chair noted that it was most unlikely that the Planning Council Co-Chair will be in attendance at the Retreat. However, if he won't make it to the Retreat, other arrangements will be made to give an inhouse presentation. Efforts will be made to ensure that recruitment for Council membership was part of the weekend activities.

There was lengthy discussion regarding recruitment and retention. The committee discussed the frustrations they face having their voices heard and it was agreed that there was a gap of understanding between the consumers and the Planning Council. In order to bridge the gap between the consumer and the Provider, Lynea stated that she is planning an October in-person dialogue forum.

The Co-Chair reiterated the request for the committee to share ideas or provide feedback, and/or information they would like to be included in the Retreat activities.

The committee accepted the recommendation that it will be helpful to have some information on the Monkeypox; information such as who is impacted by it and how it impacts PLWH/A, and any information related to the need for the vaccine for people with HIV versus non-HIV people. And information about locations where to access such vaccines. Lynea volunteered to contact someone that can provide some information about the Monkeypox.

**Draft Agenda:**

The committee reviewed the draft Agenda for Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, that the Ad Hoc Committee was working on. The Ad Hoc Committee made some revisions, especially with regards to the Speakers. There was a recommendation to include the **molecular surveillance**. However, the Ad Hoc Committee has not yet discussed the recommendation. Lynea will make an effort to reach out to Deandra, again, to see if she can present on HIV Decriminalization.

The Co-Chair thanked the committee for their work and input. She thanked the Ad Hoc Committee and reminded them that they still have work to do to tie up the loose ends and will be in touch to set up time for the next meeting. She thanked Darnell for assistance in putting the committee on the path for **net funding**.

**Any Other Business/Announcements:**

There was no other business to discuss or announcements.

**Next Meeting Date:**

The next meeting will be the Statewide Consumer Retreat during the weekend of August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss, a motion was moved by Meyoni and seconded by Ruth to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lynea Hogan --Co-Chair

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Meyoni Beale-Co-Chair