

**CHARLOTTESVILLE/ALBEMARLE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 5, 2005
ALBEMARLE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING-5TH STREET, ROOM B**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Martha Carroll, 16th District Court Service Unit
Dr. Kevin Castner, Albemarle County Schools
Robert Cox, Charlottesville Dept. of Social Services
Madison Cummings, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Dr. Michael Dickens, Charlottesville Citizen Representative
Tracey Hopper, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Winx Lawrence, University of Virginia
Dr. Susan McLeod, Thomas Jefferson Health District
Linda Peacock, City of Charlottesville
Kathy Ralston, Chair, Albemarle Department of Social Services
Sterling Robinson, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Noah Schwartz, Monticello Area Community Action Agency
Cathy Train, United Way-Thomas Jefferson Area
Kim Walters, Albemarle Youth Representative
Roxanne White, Albemarle County
Danielle Wilcox, Charlottesville Citizen Representative

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Phil Campbell, Region Ten Community Services Board
Shirley Copeland, Albemarle Citizen Representative
Dr. Scottie Griffin, Charlottesville City Schools
Leslie Harris-Scott, Charlottesville Citizen Representative
Timothy Heaphy, Charlottesville Citizen Representative
Alia Stewart-Silver, Charlottesville Youth Representative

OTHERS PRESENT

Sibley Johns, Music Resource Center
Kathy Dowd, Charlottesville City Schools
Angela Ciofi, representing Emily Drefuss, Just Children

CCF STAFF PRESENT

Saphira Baker, Director
Gretchen Ellis, Planner
Linda Rahman, Program Assistant

HANDOUTS (prior to meeting)

Agenda for January 5, 2005 CCF meeting
December 1, 2004 CCF meeting minutes
Director's Report
Assets for Youth Approval item Summary, Recommendations Report and Summary of Recommendations
Human Services Agenda Approval Item Summary and draft Concept Paper
CCF 2004 Annual Report
Charlottesville CSA Summary Financial Report
Albemarle CSA Summary Financial Report
CSA CART Cases
CSA Meeting Minutes
2005 Thomas Jefferson Planning District Legislative Program & Priorities

HANDOUTS (during meeting)

Condensed Guide to Services for Limited English Proficient Populations in Charlottesville
Public ESL Services – Charlottesville/Albemarle Quick Guide
CCF 2204 Retreat Draft Minutes
Improving Access to Out-of-School Activities in Charlottesville/Albemarle
CCF 2004 Annual Report

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

K. Ralston, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and welcomed Commissioners and guests.

II. SPECIFICATION OF ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO AGENDA

No agenda items were added.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments were made.

IV. MINUTES FROM THE CCF MEETING FOR DECEMBER 1, 2004

A motion to approve the December 1, 2004 minutes was made by Buz Cox and seconded by Martha Carroll.

K. Ralston inquired about any revisions or changes to the minutes and advised that the room Commissioners met in was listed incorrectly and M. Cummings stated that under the Family Violence Workgroup, there was a misspelling of sites.

◆ THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 1, 2004 CCF MEETINGS.

V. ASSETS FOR YOUTH WORK GROUP REPORT

W. Lawrence gave a brief overview on the formation of the Assets for Youth work group. She stated that CCF formed the work group in October of 2003 based on the results of the Needs Assessment that indicated low-income and minority groups were underrepresented in after-school activities for middle and high school. She stated that the work group was formed to examine what assets for youth exist in the community, to understand the barriers and solutions to participation of at-risk youth in productive activities and to make recommendations for community-wide improvements.

W. Lawrence stated that this work group was incredibly innovative in that -- in addition to seeking advice from adults who were involved in this area -- they also sought the input from youth who were involved in after-school activities and those who were not. She reported that the work group received a grant to conduct 27 focus groups with 260 City and County middle and high school students; led by a team of 22 students who were selected by school personnel and who were trained by the staff at TeensGive. She stated that the work group found that involving the youth changed the way the work group thought about conducting business. In addition, she noted that along the way, the work group realized that there was not a lot of information available for parents on after-school activities. Therefore, the work group obtained funding to produce a brochure that was distributed the first week of school to circulate among the children and other entities. W. Lawrence stated that in addition to the brochures, the work group completed *“Improving Access to Out-of-School Time in Charlottesville/Albemarle”*, a report with recommendations from the CCF Assets for Youth Work Group and *“Youth Voices”*, the results of the youth focus groups.

She noted that the work group's four goals were to:

1. Look at how to improve youth engagement
2. How the committee might expand and enhance after-school activities
3. How to enhance coordination
4. How to reach out to programs

In addition, the work group also recognized that transportation needed to be addressed.

W. Lawrence reviewed in detail the *Requests for action by CCF Board* dated Wednesday, January 5, 2005. She stated that:

I. In the CCF's Advisory Role:

- A) Request that City and County School Boards and governments consider enhancing and expanding after-school opportunities for youth through the following actions:
 - a. Keep school gyms and computer labs open for student use during evenings, weekends and summers. Expand the hours of operation for public swimming pools.
 - b. Increase on-site year-round extracurricular activities at County middle schools, particularly Walton and Henley.
 - c. Increase financial assistance for lower income youth to participate in fee-based extracurricular and out-of-school programs.
 - d. Make information about financial assistance for youth programs available and understandable to all students and their parents.
 - e. Eliminate admission fees for students at public school activities.
 - f. Determine the cost and potential market for expanding weekend and evening hours of community and school-based programs.
 - g. Establish incentives for youth programs at schools and in the community that demonstrate youth engagement and leadership.
 - h. Conduct a market study for an after-school bus line to address transportation barriers.
- B) Request that existing youth programs consider enhancing and expanding after-school opportunities for youth through the following actions:
 - a. Provide structured opportunities for youth engagement, program ownership, and input through initiatives such as:
 - Task-oriented youth committees
 - Periodic youth focus groups,
 - Youth membership on organizational boards
 - Regular surveys of youth
 - b. Increase financial assistance for lower income youth to participate in fee-based extracurricular and out-of-school programs.
 - c. Make information about financial assistance for youth programs available and understandable to all students and their parents.

II In CCF's Coordination of Services Role

- A) Engage youth organizations and youth leaders in researching the feasibility of establishing sites for teen clubs in new or existing facilities. Engage youth organizations and youth in conducting and informing the study and designing any resulting initiatives. Secure funding for project.

- B) Continue Assets for Youth Implementation Work Group to guide report recommendations, and to identify a process and resources for assessing the need for summer youth development, employment and enrichment opportunities for middle and high school youth, to include low-cost or free recreation, employment, and enrichment/education activities.
- C) Plan a marketing campaign to engage youth in community programming and planning. Develop and distribute promotional campaign materials to media outlets that youth and parents use. Secure funding for the project.

III In CCF's Advisor/Capacity Building Role

- A) Create and identify effective training materials and resources to help programs involve youth in program design, governance, marketing and outreach, evaluation, and staff training. Distribute training information to youth programs through seminars, website resources, and "tip sheets."
- B) Distribute regularly updated print information on after-school programs to schools, agencies, youth, and their parents.
- C) Explore the resources needed and potential market for a user-friendly website resource for youth, parents and referral sources to connect to a menu of local after-school opportunities.

W. Lawrence requested that the Commissioners:

1. Accept and release "*Improving Access to Out-of School Time*" to the public.
2. Endorse the overall recommendations in the report. Approve action items, 1, 2, and 3 below related to CCF, and support CCF in forwarding action items 4, 5, 6 and 7 to the respective bodies identified in each.

Action Items:

1. Continue Assets for Youth Implementation work group to guide report recommendation –including youth engagement and the development of a promotional campaign – and to identify a process and resources for assessing the need for summer youth development, enrichment and employment opportunities for middle and high school youth. Support this new work group in securing funding and staff support for the research and coordination involved in this project. Providing comprehensive staffing for this work group would require 8 to 12 hours of staff time weekly.
2. Charge the Implementation Work Group with identifying resources to engage and assist youth organization and youth leaders in researching the feasibility of establishing accessible facilities such as clubs and centers for teens where youth people have a menu of options available to them. Engage youth organizations and youth in conducting and informing the study and designing any resulting initiatives. Based on the *Youth Voices* project, the cost for this research would be approximately \$10,000.
3. Encourage the Implementation Work Group to seek and secure resources to improve the coordination of youth programs and increase public awareness of the value and availability of productive after-school activities in the community. If resources are secured, plan a marketing campaign to engage youth in community programming and planning. Develop and distribute promotional campaign materials to media outlets that youth and parents use. Engage youth in advising and shaping the campaign. The cost of such a campaign is estimated to be between \$10,000 and \$50,000.

Forward to the City and County School Divisions the following two recommendations:

4. Create and support after school programming at Walton and Henley.
5. Keep school gyms and computer labs open later for student use during evenings, weekends and summers.

Forward to the City and County Recreation Departments the following recommendation:

6. Expand the hours of operation for public swimming pools.

Forward to the City and County Transportation Departments the following recommendation:

7. Conduct a market study for an after school bus line to address transportation barriers. The study should examine ways to increase public transportation routes between home, school, and after school programs, and increase youth bus rider ship in Charlottesville.

K. Ralston acknowledged the work group members who were present at the CCF meeting: Kathy Dowd with the City Schools, Sibley Johns with the Music Resource Center and Angela Ciofi, representing Emily Drefuss of Just Children.

K. Ralston opened the floor to discussion of the proposed recommendations from the Assets for Youth Work Group Report. S. McLeod inquired about the names of the other members of the work group. S. Baker advised her to look on page 19 of the *Youth Voices Report* for a complete listing. K. Ralston stated that in general, once again, a CCF work group has really provided the Commissioners with a wealth of information and thanked the work group for their report.

The Commissioners discussed the City and County schools work/study programs and the need to investigate and understand what exists and what resources the work group could pull in to expand those programs. Also improving the coordination of youth programs and increasing public awareness of the value and availability of productive after-school activities in the community was needed. Commissioners discussed what effect the increase in awareness would have on the resources of some programs. C. Train asked about where the cost of these recommendations would come from? S. Baker stated that CCF could do 10-12 hours of the staff time without additional cost. However, the research money would take some fundraising. She stated that the work group was fortunate to get the \$10,000 for the *Youth Voices* and they would continue to look for resources. S. Baker informed the Commissioners that the research money for the summer programs would require local discretionary funds and the promotional campaign would require a long-term fundraising strategy.

S. Baker stated that the Assets for Youth work group members are very interested in the idea of having a highly visible after-school network and a promotional campaign. She advised the Commissioners that in a survey that was conducted of 15 agencies, most agencies agreed to pay a membership fee. She noted that there would be several work group members looking for those funds, not just the Commission for the promotional campaign.

R. White stated that there might be the possibility that some of our community foundations might come forward with funding. The Commission discussed the issues with costs and weighing the need for this community to recognize the need for middle and high school kids to be involved in productive activities. Members noted that this is a group of kids who should be supervised and attended to. Once established, this campaign would have a life of its own and once there is some interest and involvement, the cost will not be as much. N. Schwartz inquired if there is a surplus

of capacity or are most programs maxed out. W. Lawrence stated that the work group found programs were mixed; programs would find ways (and funding) to meet the needs. She stated that, for example, the Soccer Organization found more scholarships when kids needed them. The Commissioners discussed the impact it would have on existing programs.

L. Peacock announced that M. Svetz, who is a member of the Assets for Youth Work Group, is a member of Leadership Charlottesville and is planning on establishing a Youth Council and inquired if there has been any discussion with the committee, as she believed there should be some kind of coordination with them. W. Lawrence stated she was not aware of it.

K. Ralston asked the Commissioners to look at the requests from the Assets for Youth Work Group and inquired if there was a motion.

A motion to approve the acceptance and release of "*Improving Access to Out-of-School Time*" to the public was made by Buz Cox and seconded by Roxanne White.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE AND RELEASE OF "*IMPROVING ACCESS TO OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME*" TO THE PUBLIC.**

K. Ralston questioned the Commissioners to see if they preferred to vote separately on the action items or as one action item. The Commissioners agreed to vote all action items together.

A motion to endorse the overall recommendations in the report and to approve the action items with a caveat being that the funding indicated in recommendation one, two and three not come from new sources, local government or the Commission was made by L. Peacock and seconded by R. White.

The motion was discussed among the Commissioners. S. Baker stated she felt uncomfortable with the caveat, given that 276 kids had spoken, the importance of these action items, and knowing that local funds are spent on other things that are arguably less important. She further stated that shutting the door to local funding from the get go is premature; she understands that the funds do not need to come from the Commission but she would like to at least keep the door open for the City Council and the Board of Supervisors to fund any one of these proposals should they believe they have merit.

W. Lawrence stated that she would not vote for that motion because of the caveat. She stated that the youth have spoken and they would like to be involved and the value is too great. She stated that she does not see the Commission asking right out for the funds, but if the Council and Board offer, the Commission would not say no. The Commissioners discussed funding these action items and the approach to take with the Council and Board. L. Peacock stated that it should be recognized that a caveat has been applied to action items one, two and three and forwarding the others to include the County Parks and Recreation and Transportation Departments would require a large, significant amount of money. T. Hopper inquired if there was a way to make a friendly amendment to the caveat that would capture the concerns of the Commissioners but not shut the door for a match. B. Cox stated that we could add a condition to the caveat in the motion that we are not endorsing approaching City Council and County Board of Supervisors for the \$10,000-\$50,000 at this time as we want to seek other sources first. B. Cox stated it would require a vote on that.

K. Ralston inquired if that was considered a friendly amendment and would L. Peacock accept it. L. Peacock stated that the Commissioners could add at this time to the motion a friendly amendment made by B. Cox stating that the caveat would not mean that we would be asking the

City Council or Board of Supervisors at this time for the funds that are designated in number two or number three and if the work group did decide to ask for those funds at a later date, they would have to come back to the Commission for approval. W. Lawrence seconded the friendly amendment to the motion.

S. McLeod suggested that the reference to the money be taken out of the action item and approval given. Commissioners discussed taking the dollar figure out, however, it was noted that the resources are still needed and leadership has asked the Commissioners to be more specific in their requests. M. Dickens stated his concern of Commissioners casting the recommendations in a negative way or indicating a lack of commitment about the worthiness of these recommendations. He stated he would rather not approve this motion with the friendly amendment and start all over.

K. Ralston stated that the motion on the floor is that we support the recommendation, support the report and support the action items with the friendly amendment to the caveat that L. Peacock proposed in that motion to not go forward and ask for funds from the City and the County government or to use funds from the Commission at this time but that if the work group felt like they needed to come back and ask for those funds from either the City or County government they could come back to the Commission to ask for that permission.

A vote was taken and there were 6 ayes and 8 opposed. K. Ralston stated that the motion was defeated and asked if there was another motion.

A motion to approve the recommendations as presented striking the sentences that refer to funding amounts (Action Item #2: Based on the Youth Voices project, the cost for this research would be approximately \$10,000 and Action Item #3: The cost of such a campaign is estimated to be between \$10,000 and \$50,000) was made by S. McLeod and seconded by C. Train.

K. Ralston opened the floor for discussion. L. Peacock stated that she would like to point out that some of the Commissioner's discussion at the 2004 Retreat involved focusing on the need to put forth the costs of some of the programs and so, therefore, the work group was basically responding to what the Commissioners had asked. She further stated that she believes the Commissioners have put themselves in a very difficult situation. She believes that it is fine to add what the cost is going to be, but making an expectation that it has to be funded by one source or another is not fine. K. Ralston stated that the sentence is giving a cost estimate; it does not say money is being asked for and by taking out the dollar amount does not change anything. The Commissioners discussed how all three of these action items will be going to the implementation work group where it is left up to them to secure resources. S. McLeod withdrew her motion as stated above.

A motion was made to approve the recommendations as written by M. Dickens and seconded by D. Wilcox.

A vote was taken and there were 12 ayes and 3 opposed.

- ◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MOTION TO ENDORSE THE OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT. APPROVE ACTION ITEMS 1, 2, AND 3 RELATED TO CCF, AND SUPPORT CCF IN FORWARDING ACTION ITEMS 4, 5, 6, AND 7 TO THE RESPECTIVE BODIES IDENTIFIED IN EACH.**

K. Ralston thanked the workgroup for a great job.

VI. REPORT BACK ON CCF STRATEGIC PLAN

K. Ralston gave a brief background on what the Executive Committee had been tasked with following the Retreat where the Commissioners examined roles, structures, capacity within the context of forwarding recommendations made by the workgroups to local officials. She stated that, in that discussion, the Commissioners decided, among other things, to pursue the development of a strategic plan for CCF and Commissioners. K. Ralston stated that the Executive Committee had completed their review and met with Linda Peacock and Roxanne White to discuss it further. She reported that the Executive Committee discussed moving the Commission to a different level, a new level of thinking strategically about how to influence decisions about service delivery and how to position the Commission to move forward on priority areas. She stated that the Executive Committee also discussed whether this would include reforming the charter, the original charter that was put forward by the City and County, and whether it would involve structure as well. She advised that the Executive Committee also had some discussion about how the results from the Re-design/Re-structure work group would play in forming the strategic decisions that would be moved forward. She stated that the Executive Committee wants to have information from that work group as they move forward in this process.

The Executive Committee discussed options for facilitating this process and one option was Lori Strumpf. K. Ralston stated that the Executive Committee's suggestion to the Commissioners is that the Commission pursue a range of facilitators, get bids from them, and see what their proposals offer the Commission. They would be asked to recommend a process, based on the discussions the Executive Committee had. The Executive Committee would then come back to the Commission with a recommendation for a facilitator and the process for a strategic plan. K. Ralston stated that she had four questions for the Commissioners:

1. Do you still want to pursue the idea of developing a strategic plan or do you want to do something different?

The Commissioners discussed costs and funding and S. Baker stated that there is between \$6,000-8,000 we could use toward this if CCF continues to cut back on costs, and we receive some FY03 IV-E funds that have not been released. She noted that CCF has been cutting back extensively on costs and operating on a reduced budget since these funds are uncertain. If CCF receives the IV-E funds, it would be used for the strategic plan.

B. Cox stated that he thought it would depend on the next agenda item as to whether the Commission needed to develop a strategic plan. S. Baker noted that the next agenda item (a Human Services agenda) could be an action item in the strategic plan. Commissioners discussed being interested in a strategic plan but not interested in a huge document that would take six months to develop. K. Ralston stated that the other questions were:

2. Do you want this process to be formally facilitated by an outside consultant?
3. Do you have any ideas on consultants to recommend either now or within the next week?
4. Are there any critical issues that we need to address?

The Commissioners suggested the following facilitators: Bob Garrett, Lee Catlin and Bitsy Waters. W. Lawrence stated that in light of the money situation discussed earlier, she would much rather spend the \$15,000 on the Assets for Youth work group and apply it to the recommendations that the work group made. She stated that she does not want to spend CCF money on a strategic plan but would rather look for someone in the community who would donate their services to the Commission. D. Wilcox stated that a strategic plan is needed so the Commission can know how to choose priorities and know if there is money to be spent on recommendations or something else. The Commissioners discussed the need for a strategic plan

for prioritizing recommendations from the work groups, a strategic approach for what the Commission does, defining the structure and having a mission statement and focusing on the CCF's advisor role. K. Ralston stated that there is a consensus among the Commissioners for having a strategic plan and a facilitator. She asked that any ideas on potential facilitators please be forwarded to her. M. Dickens suggested having a constitution instead of a strategic plan; a method to provide ground rules, for the Commission to abide by those rules and a process to go forward with recommendations to the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors. Commissioners discussed how, in the past, they clarified their roles and - through research - identified what their priority issues were but they never put a frame around it to determine operating guidelines. Strategically, how do they make sure CCF addressed those four priority issues within their goals? S. Baker stated that, without a strategic plan, what happens is, at the last seven meetings the Commissioners had to come to a stop at the issue of capacity. The Commission should know what the strategic priorities are, how staffing is aligned to meet those priorities, where interns are needed, and where fund raising is required. She stated that it might be more of a business plan; how to stay focused, successful, have an impact and see that CCF has growth and stability. M. Cummings stated that the Executive Committee should wait until the Re-design/Re-structure group is completed with its recommendations. T. Hopper stated that, at the Retreat, all the Commissioners struggled about what the mission statement was; it wasn't clear if there was one, what the advisory role was, and inquired about changing the Charter.

The Commissioners discussed what they felt the Commission needed. Suggestions included:

- Having a Mission Statement and building around it
- Having an application process with a clear application and business plan

S. Baker stated the Re-design/R-structure subgroup was to update the Commissioners in February, but it may be better for the Executive Committee to review their findings first. She stated that the sub-group was primarily focusing on looking at the way work groups operate.

K. Castner brought up the issue that federal programs were drying up and that work is being lost due to the trickle down affect of reduced human service funds. He stated that the funding drying up maybe a bigger issue than a strategic plan. He stated that he believes the Commission needs to figure out what their position is on this and if they will have any clout or any funds available before pursuing a strategic plan. T. Hopper stated that she had gone to a Partnership for Children meeting and learned more about IV-E funds drying up and the complications that went along with that. As CCF is not a non-profit organization, she suggested that -- possibly through some mechanism such as a donor fund -- we might be able to piggy back on to a 501(c)(3) status to somehow privately fundraise. K. Ralston stated that suggestion could be a short-term strategy, but the Commission would need a plan for the long run. R. White stated that, if the resources are limited, CCF should focus their priorities and make statements on where resources should go; thus making a strategic plan even more necessary. S. McLeod inquired if the Commission could get either in writing or a presentation on basic information on governmental funding and private funding because not everybody knows how they work. K. Ralston advised that the Commissioners would have this discussion at another meeting. W. Lawrence stated that input for a strategic plan might come from the Re-design/Re-structure work group. There was a consensus amount the Commissioners to wait until the Re-design/Re-structure work group had finished and reported back to the Commission and for the Executive Committee to put on hold for now any plans for a strategic/business plan session until they meet with that work group and present an option together.

VII. REQUEST FROM JEFFERSON AREA BOARD OF AGING

K. Ralston stated that this was an approval item.

S. McLeod stated that Gordon Walker, the Executive Director of JABA and a member of the County School Board spoke to the Commissioners in May, 2004 regarding a proposal for CCF to look at a shared vision for an intergenerational approach to public policy and social programming, a framework for an age integrated community and common initiatives, such as a companion document to *Stepping Stones* and a human services agenda that advances a minimum standard of living for persons of all ages. The Executive Committee brought this back to the June 2004 meeting and Commissioners agreed to establish a small group to explore these options further with JABA. The group considered the following options proposed by CCF, as well as others:

- Having some CCF members serve on JABA 2020 work group (their strategic plan)
- Create a new joint work group dealing with intergenerational issues
- Hold a joint retreat about human services strategic plan
- Or do nothing, based on lack of capacity at CCF

S. McLeod stated that a series of meetings were held with Mr. Walker, the JABA Planner, members of JABA Board and CCF. The sub-group is proposing to the Commissioners to work with JABA and other community partners to develop a human service action agenda.

M. Cummings gave a brief review of the Draft of the “Case Statement for Charlottesville-Albemarle Human Services Action Agenda” to the Commissioners. He stated that several components are needed to create and sustain a human services action agenda.

- Additional targeted data collection, with a particular emphasis on human services for the adult and aging population is needed.
- Once goals, indicator, and strategies are set, the focus will move to monitoring and reporting on progress, championing the ongoing progress, evaluation strategies, improving delivery and challenging the community with measurable results and public awareness.
- A more complete understanding of current public and private human services investments through a “human services budget” will be developed. A document that measures and analyzes overall current human service investments and assets is critical.
- Facilitation of stakeholder and community meetings will contribute to a final document.
- In the future, an intergenerational advisory team with representatives from CCF, JABA, University of Virginia, Citizens, employers and other community stakeholders will guide the process to insure the human services action agenda is implemented, evaluated and measured.
- The need for resources. The first year cost is estimated at \$50,000 and ongoing costs of \$35,000-\$40,000 annually.

M. Cummings stated that both JABA and CCF have common interests and are well-respected organizations in the community and if CCF goes forward with this, it will raise CCF availability as a group for advocates for human services across the board with another respected organization. He noted that this was something we talked about at the retreat. He asked the Commissioners to approve the concept of developing a community wide human services agenda, with CCF playing a major role. Secondly, he asked CCF to authorize JABA and CCF to try to raise funds to support the draft concept described in the “Case Statement for a Charlottesville-Albemarle

Human Services Action Agenda”. M. Cummings stated that the most crucial thing to mention is that JABA would be helping to generate resources from various groups in Charlottesville and Albemarle

T. Hopper inquired about the 1995 human services agenda that was mentioned. Was it the same thing as this human services agenda and was it actually done then? It was noted that it was a human services plan done in the County and it is similar, but was not the same thing that is proposed.

L. Peacock stated that there were other ways to fold us together with JABA on a smaller scale without another advisory board. She stated she did not understand why JABA doesn't feel comfortable moving forward with the recommendations contained in the 2020 Plan. M. Dickens stated that, having advocated for children at the national and state level for years, he has always been struck that there is a dynamic competition between the advocates for elders and advocates for children. The elderly vote and politicians listen, and generally the advocates for the elderly will win the day. He stated that the Commission potentially has things to gain, and that it would be better to be in the same boat than compete as we all live in the same community. However, M. Dickens does not want CCF to lose sight that they are advocates for children and the need to be forceful about that. He stated that he would like a guarantee that voices for children will be heard and JABA will not try to use CCF's clout or facility to further their agenda.

B. Cox inquired how the sub-group went from the three bullet points on page two, which were practical, to the enormous undertaking on page one? S. McLeod stated that what was proposed was an expansion of bullet point number three. She stated that what had happened was the sub-committee realized that a joint retreat was not, in itself, sufficient to bring in all the different parties; but it is basically going the same place. S. Baker stated that Mr. Walker has been talking about this human service agenda earlier and writing columns on it, and the Outcome Measurement Group has been looking at the need to expand from a child and family focus to a human service focus in order to really evaluate non-profit agencies and to make recommendations and priorities. She stated that she believed it was a lot of different energies coming together and the group decided to put this out there as it would certainly raise the radar screen for human services in the community and it would help us make hard choices about where to put resources. W. Lawrence stated that one would say it was a noble effort but she believes it actually weakens both groups. She stated that a general statement would lose the power of both groups and does not see it helping CCF have a clearer voice. S. McLeod stated that there are a number of underlying, major issues regarding children that we know about, that JABA has identified, that may be more “root causes”. If we came together, we might have more impact and gain strength addressing some of the economic things, educational things, health insurance, housing that we know are root causes for a lot of problems. W. Lawrence stated that there is more power in two bodies speaking together instead of one board.

R. White stated that she was concerned about the timing and the Commission being able to establish priorities and accomplish things on their own. She stated that joining with another group and making more plans would just water the Commission down. C. Train stated that, of the recommendations that had been forwarded to the City and County, only a few had been read or acted on. She stated that she believes the Commission should only do one or two recommendations; decide what 2 things are needed for kids that the Commission needs to beat to death.

K. Castner stated that he wondered if there was another way to look at this. He stated that the elderly is the fastest growing population, a population that sometimes has money to give. If we are talking also about intergenerational advocacy and the fact that they could be tutoring some of the same children we are having trouble with, how can we say that we don't have interest in the

human services agenda, as this may be a communication agenda where we can see if there is a way to marshal resources. We are going to have to change the paradigm, that instead of setting it up as something they might provide, we might invite JABA and elders to come to the table and see what they might say. They will not know some of the issues we are dealing with if we don't consider that bridge. It may be something different than what they are asking but is it an opportunity we might want to look into? M. Cummings stated that he sees the potential of an intergenerational agenda and that it could make us stronger.

R. White inquired on what the Commissioners were approving. Approving the concept only or approving a human services action agenda. K. Ralston stated that the Commission is voting on developing a community wide human services plan. S. McLeod stated that she did not hear any support for the human services plan in the discussion.

A motion was made to defer item till the February meeting by L. Peacock and seconded by N. Schwartz.

◆ **THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MOTION TO DEFER THE ITEM UNTILL THE FEBRUARY 2, 2004 CCF MEETING.**

S. Baker stated that she thought what Dr. Caster said was a wonderful idea and did not want to lose that JABA and CCF can issue some joint statements on critical cross-cutting issues as part of our communication strategy to get human service needs on the radar screen.

M. Dickens suggested marrying this concept with the Youth Assets group. He suggested approaching JABA and telling them we have all these things we want to do and asking how you can help us make it happen? T. Hopper stated that, if the motion is deferred, the same items for approval will come forward and, based on everything that has been said, we would vote it down yet she noted that, if the items for approval are different – they might pass. S. McLeod stated that the sub-group had another meeting scheduled and have a lot to take back to that group to let them know what CCF is interested in and wants to talk some more about this. She noted that a revised report would be presented next month.

VIII. DIRECTORS REPORT

M. Carroll inquired about the status of the Utilization Review Manager position. S. Baker stated that the position has not been filled. She stated that the criteria was being changed and Region Ten is still advertising. B. Cox mentioned that one person had been found but did not want to relocate.

S. Baker advised the Commissioners that the Annual Report presentation had been rescheduled for the City Council to February 7th and February 2nd for the County Board of Supervisors. She noted that copies of the report are located on the back table and available to the Commissioners.

M. Carroll inquired about the 21st Century Learning Grant that Yancey School had received. G. Ellis stated the Foundation that Mrs. Kluge supports started an after school program at Yancey with 35 children. The Foundation hired a grant writer to apply for the 21st Century Grant and the County Schools were notified before Christmas that they had been awarded the grant. CCF has not heard from the County Schools of the actual amount; it was originally \$170,000. The grant will enhance the current after school program and will be available for all 150 children with four teachers working with them on Math, Reading, Science, Social Studies, Physical Ed and Fine Arts programs. The County schools are the fiscal agent. G. Ellis noted that, at this time, there are

37 kids enrolled where there were only 8 children in the program last year. She noted that there is a nice consortium of people involved, including the school, the church and community members.

S. Baker stated that as you recall, the Superintendent of the City Schools, requested a quick listing her staff could utilize in the area of connecting limited English speaking residents with human service agencies. Amber Zavada and CCF Intern, Blair Cantfil, have put that together with the help from United Way and the Salvation Army. Copies of that listing are available on the back table for Commissioners. In addition, an Undergraduate UVA/CCF Intern has finished the first draft of the research brief on the needs of the limited English speakers and that will be available after it is completed.

IX. MEMBER'S COMMENTS

M. Cummings announced that Kim Walters had won the Golden Award in Scouting and congratulated her.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE
FEBRUARY 2, 2005
IN THE ALBEMARLE COUNTY 5TH STREET OFFICE BUILDING
CONFERENCE ROOM B**