

**Michigan Commission on Community Action and
Economic Opportunity
Wednesday, August 29, 2018
Michigan Community Action, Okemos
10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Commission Meeting Minutes

Members: Jill Edwards-Sutton (Chair), Fran Amos, James Borchard, Ben Geiger, Jacob Maas, Robert Scolnik, and Jessica Taylor
Staff: Paula Kaiser VanDam, Kris Schoenow, Janice Harvey, Drew Kornecky, Chere Coleman

Guests: Susan Newhof, Dr. Linda Reeser, Kristen Kerecman

I. Welcome and introductions

- Chair Edwards-Sutton called the meeting to order at 10:15 am
- Absent: Kortni Campbell, Sonjalita Hulbert, Matthew Purcell, Luke Shaefer, LaTarro Traylor

II. Approval of February 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Chair Edwards-Sutton requested a motion to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2018 MCCAEO meeting. James Borchard made the motion to approve the minutes; Fran Amos seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Panel Discussion – University Poverty Initiatives

- Kristen Kerecman, Poverty Solutions
- Dr. Linda Reeser, Western Michigan University

IV. Commissioner Report – Jill Edwards-Sutton

- The report was shared with Commissioners for final feedback
 - Add an introduction on the recommendation page
 - Organize recommendations by audience (3 categories)
 - Sort/Condense recommendations
- Implementation/Next Steps
 - Share with Community Action Agencies, Legislature, Commission website, hard copy to chairs of House and Senate Human Services Committees, Michigan Banker Association, Michigan Credit Union League

V. Commission Priorities

- Commissioners had discussion around the next priority area
 - Student loans
 - Obstacles to getting out of poverty
 - Affordable housing; safe, quality housing; underlying issues of people living in better housing; housing stock and matching the need; eviction diversion program

- Quality/Affordable childcare
- Transportation
- Sober housing
- Marijuana – impact to low income families
- Substance use/abuse

VI. BCAEO Update and Action Items – Kris Schoenow

- Commission Appointments were made with one new commissioner replacing Marcella Wilson (Luke Shaefer) and three re-appointments (Jessica Taylor, Robert Scolnik, Matthew Purcell)
- Funding Update
 - CSBG FY18 final allocation is \$26 million and is a 2-year grant
 - Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) funding for PY18 is \$16.9 million and started on July 1st
 - LIHEAP funding is \$6 million; funding will be distributed to CAAs on October 1st
 - Changes in State Plan to complement DOE funding
 - Other changes in the State Plan include re-weathering homes and giving agencies the ability to make a home ready for weatherization
 - BCAEO submitted a proposal for MEAP funding and were not funded
 - BCAEO is working with LIHEAP office for future TANF funds.
 - Received \$1.2 million in TANF and State General Funds to assist with water heater replacement program in Flint.
 - BCAEO received \$525,000 in TANF funds for School Success program through NEMCSA
 - National funding update: CSBG State Plan will be submitted on 8/30
- Staffing Update
 - Creating the Weatherization Training Center which will be both a virtual training center and have partner sites
- MCA/BCAEO Summer Conference
 - The MCA/BCAEO conference is at Crystal Mountain July 9-12, 2018
 - MCAEO Commission meeting will take place on Monday, July 9th at Crystal Mountain and then Commissioners are invited to the Executive Dinner that evening
 - Commissioners are invited to attend the conference session July 10-11 (Janice will send out registration information to commissioners)
 - Great sessions; board track; weatherization track; Roma Next Generation
 - Board Member track will have sessions on human resources, finance
 - University of Michigan poverty solutions will be speaking
 - Evening Activities include CAA staff, board members, executive directors

VI. Public Comment – Schedule meeting with new MDHHS administration in early 2019.

VII. Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.