

DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

November 21, 2005

Board Members Present: Doug Fraley, Norm Gilbert, Robert Krogman, Charles Rose, Jeannette Vaupel

Board Members Absent: Janice Abizaid, Julia Fullerton, Andrea Gargani, Regina Parker

Other Persons Present: Office staff: Elizabeth Carney.

Community Members: Kathy Ostdick, Kathy Dust, Margaret Elmer, Chuck Elmer, Sheila Ryan.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Doug Fraley, at 7:09 p.m.

II. AGENDA

Mr. Gilbert moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Ms. Vaupel. The motion passed on a voice vote.

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Upon Mr. Fraley's request, the community members who were present introduced themselves.

IV. MINUTES

Mr. Gilbert moved to approve the minutes of the October 2005 Board Meeting as presented; seconded by Mr. Rose. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The Board discussed the current practice of only the Board Secretary signing the minutes after they were approved. The Board decided to change the practice so that both the person who took the minutes and the Board secretary sign the minutes after they are approved.

V. COMMUNITY INPUT

Ms. Elmer gave a presentation to the Board and guests about an on-line resource, Network of Care for Behavioral Health, at 'Networkofcare.org'. This is a resource that provides access to a library of articles about mental health and legislation, and can be used by a county or state to provide a directory of services. Ms. Elmer is advocating for the state of Illinois to participate in this network so that mental health consumers can have easy access to the full array of services available in the state. The Board thanked her for bringing the website to their attention and for her presentation.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Krogman presented a column from "Parade" by Marilyn Vos Savant in which mental illness was presented as being caused by "unhappy childhoods." The Board discussed that the stigma of mental illness continues and that even nationally-syndicated columnists can be in need of education about the causes of mental illness.

Ms. Carney reviewed a letter from Jerry Lane, former Executive Director of the Board, that informs the Board that he has started a consulting business, Crisis Ready Consulting.

Ms. Carney presented information about the following:

- A. The local NAMI Family Support Group has changed the week of their meeting to avoid conflict with the Support Group meeting in St. Charles. Ms. Dust presented some information about the groups.
- B. Opportunity House has reached the goal of their capital campaign for their new residence.
- C. The community service activities of the Aktion Club of Opportunity House were featured in an article. This group brings Opportunity House clients and community members together for service projects.
- D. The Episcopal Mental Illness Network presented a conference, "The Good News Is For Everyone," in Arkansas last November which was an excellent example of a faith community providing education about mental illness.
- E. Jerry Lane and the Community Crisis Response Team presented a training for local not-for-profit, social service, and mental health agencies on the importance of agency disaster preparedness, how to develop a disaster plan, and how to plan for clients' needs after a disaster. Social service and mental health agencies were well represented at the training.

VII. FINANCE REPORTS

Ms. Carney presented the monthly expenditure report. As of October 31, 2005, the Board has completed 92% of the Fiscal Year and has spent 85% of the budgeted funds. There will be a year-end transfer from the reserve fund to the Building/Modification line item to cover a deficit that is due to the Board's allocation of capital funds to the Gordon Center's remodeling project in Fiscal Year 2005.

Mr. Gilbert moved to approve the November 2005 agency claims in the amount of \$112,286.00; seconded by Mr. Krogman. The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Mr. Gilbert moved to approve the November 2005 office claims in the amount of \$1,526.99; seconded by Ms. Vaupel. The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Ms. Carney presented information on the Fiscal Year 2006 Levy Request. The request submitted to the County Board in July would have generated projected revenue of \$1,780,700. However,

due to an increase in the anticipated Equalized Assessed Valuation for the county, our revenue is now projected to be \$1,812,000; an increase of \$31,300. The County Administrator and Finance Director supported this increase in our revenue and have requested that the Board consider allocating the increased amount to support the county's efforts to establish a Drug Court. The Board discussed this request and will consider the request when additional information is available. The Drug Court Committee has hired a grant writer and will be meeting again in the near future. Ms. Carney will be a member of the Committee and will keep the Board apprised of developments.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Carney presented the following information:

- A. As recommended by the Community Mental Health Board, the County Board Chairman and the County Board approved Mr. Krogman's appointment to another four-year term.
- B. The Gordon Center has hired a psychiatrist, Mohammad Sami, M.D., as the medical director. He will be available to see clients at the Center soon.
- C. Ms. Carney will be attending the annual Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois conference in Chicago on December 5 and 6. The theme of the conference is "Advancing Policies to Increase Care.... With No New State Money." The Board's state association, the Association of Community Mental Health Authorities, will present a workshop on the Medicaid Match process, a mechanism by which 708 Boards can generate additional funds for local mental health services.
- D. Ms. Carney will participate in a National Incident Management System training on December 7. This is the first of seven courses for the Professional Development Series offered by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency for persons new to the emergency management field. This training will assist her in meeting the Board's responsibility for the planning and implementation of the county disaster plan for mental health services.
- E. The group of area funders that are collaborating to develop a plan for a community needs assessment met recently with the director of the Northern Illinois University Regional Development Institute, a division of the NIU Center for Governmental Studies. He will present a preliminary proposal for the assessment to the group in January and Ms. Carney will bring information back to the Board.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no standing Committee reports.

The Board discussed the standing Committee structure. It was decided to have only one standing Committee, the Personnel Committee. The Nominations Committee (which was attached to the Personnel Committee), as well as the Special Projects and Capital Committees will be disbanded. Ad Hoc committees will be appointed to address these issues as the need arises.

The following members will serve on the Personnel Committee: Ms. Vaupel, Chair; Mr. Gilbert, Ms. Parker, and Mr. Fraley, ex officio. The Personnel Committee will prepare for the Executive Director's annual evaluation in February.

X. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Fraley and Mr. Krogman reviewed the questions that had arisen during their review of the Board's By-Laws. These dealt with the Board's role in the development of the annual plan, primary and secondary consumers as Board members, and the need to clarify the Board's expectations regarding meeting attendance. The members will continue this discussion at next month's meeting.

The Board reviewed the definition of a "quorum" as used in the By-Laws, affirming that the quorum required for the Board to conduct business was based on the number of current Board members, not the maximum number of Board members.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

The Board adopted the 2006 Meeting and Funding Hearings calendar as presented. The Funding Hearings will be held March 13, 15, 20, and 22. The March Board meeting and the Hearings are scheduled during the second and third weeks of the month to allow the Executive Director, and any Board members who wish to do so, to attend the Association of Community Mental Authorities of Illinois spring conference during the fourth week.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Vaupel moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue; seconded by Mr. Gilbert. The motion passed on a voice vote. The Board went into Executive Session at 8:46 p.m.

Ms. Vaupel moved that the Board return to an open meeting; seconded by Mr. Gilbert. The motion passed on a voice vote. The Board returned to an open meeting at 9:09 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gilbert moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Parker, Board Secretary/Treasurer

Elizabeth Carney, Recording Secretary