

DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

April 16, 2007

Board Members Present: Doug Fraley, Janice Abizaid, Andrea Gargani, Eileen Dubin, Robert Krogman, Charles Rose, Jeannette Vaupel, Karen Wilkerson

Board Members -Excused Absence: Cynthia Luxton

Board Members - Absent: None

Other Persons Present: Michael Flora, Roger Hopkins (arrived approximately 7:45 p.m.)
Office staff: Elizabeth Carney, Kathy Ostdick

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Fraley at 7:08 p.m.

II. AGENDA

Ms. Dubin moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Mr. Krogman. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

III. INTRODUCTIONS

Ms. Wilkerson was introduced to the Board members that she had not met. Mr. Flora was introduced.

IV. MINUTES

Mr. Krogman moved to approve the minutes of the March 2007 Board meeting as amended; seconded by Mr. Rose. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

V. COMMUNITY INPUT

There was no community input.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Carney passed around a letter from Team For Families thanking the Board for past support, a notice of the retirement of Marie Huff, a brochure on the up-coming Bridges-out-of Poverty workshop, and a number of newspaper articles about mental health-related issues.

VII. FINANCE REPORTS

Ms. Carney presented the March 2007 revenue and expense reports. Both revenue and expenses are within the expected ranges.

Ms. Abizaid moved to approve the March 2007 agency claims in the amount of \$126,805.00; seconded by Mr. Rose. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Ms. Abizaid moved to approve the March 2007 office claims in the amount of \$1,888.58; seconded by Mr. Rose. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Carney presented the following:

- An update on the new County office building. Occupancy is anticipated in late summer 2008.
- A Sexual Harassment Policy that is consistent with the County's policy. Recommended adoption after review.
- Human Services Initiative update. The funders group that is working on a social services needs assessment held a forum for community input. The resulting suggestions were compiled and the resulting document was given to the Board for review. Ms. Carney noted that the suggestions pertaining to behavioral health services would be taken into consideration when the Board's upcoming needs assessment for mental health, developmental disability, and substance abuse service is designed.
- An update on the current availability of psychiatry services in the county. She noted that Kishwaukee Hospital is the key supporter of the development of physician services as it offers temporary practice support to some physicians new to the community.

Given the departure of a psychiatrist from the Gordon Center staff, presently there are two full-time psychiatrists (one at the Gordon Center and one in independent practice), and two part-time (one at the DeKalb Clinic and one at the outpatient services at the hospital).

Two additional psychiatrists will be starting full-time independent practices in the county in September. The Hospital has been covering the cost of temporary psychiatrists who are providing after-hours coverage for the Center and the Hospital's emergency department, as well as some other services.

Over the past several weeks Ms. Carney has participated in a number of discussions with administrative staff from the Gordon Center and the Hospital about the current state of psychiatry services. She affirmed the Board's on-going commitment to support psychiatry services, as evidenced by the annual allocations for a salary subsidy for the Child and Adolescent psychiatrist employed at the Gordon Center and also for the low-income client subsidy program for psychiatric evaluations and medication monitoring visits. In these discussions, she has also explained that the Board has limited funds with multiple competing community priorities.

She recommended that the Board carefully craft its allocations for psychiatry to maximize the amount of service that is purchased with those funds.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- The Executive Committee and the Finance Committee recently held a joint meeting for the purpose of discussing Grant Year 2008 allocations. There was a consensus to vote at the April Board meeting on programs for which there was a recommendation for re-funding, as well as a cost-of-living adjustment. And to defer voting on other programs until the May meeting as it would be beneficial to have further discussion about them.

X. OLD BUSINESS

- The Annual Plan was tabled for future discussion.
- The Amendment to the By-laws regarding meeting attendance by telephone was tabled for future discussion.
- The Executive Director's performance review will be discussed in Executive Session.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- Grant Year 2008 allocations. After a review, there was a consensus to continue discussion of the allocations and to defer voting until the May meeting.

Ms. Wilkerson made a motion to postpone the allocation vote to the May meeting; seconded by Ms. Abizaid. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Rose made a motion to go into Executive Session for a discussion of a previous employee issue and an initial discussion of the Executive Director's performance review at 8:02 p.m.; seconded by Ms. Gargani. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Ms. Abizaid made a motion to close the Executive Session and return to open meeting at 9:42 p.m.; seconded by Ms. Gargani. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

The Executive Committee will continue the process of the Executive Director's annual performance review by meeting with the Director prior to the May Board meeting.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Wilkerson moved to adjourn at 9:42 p.m.; seconded by Ms. Gargani.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Abizaid, Board Secretary

Kathy Ostidick, Recording Secretary