

MINUTES
County of San Bernardino
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
June 5, 2014 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Christopher Massa, Veatrice Jews, Troy Mondragon, Michael Grabhorn, Ed O'Brien, Monica Wilson, and Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos, Third District

Excused Absence: Susan McGee-Stehsel, May Farr, Monica Alonso, Jane Godager, Sr. Carol Therese Grisotti, Akin Merino

Guests:

Beverly Scott, family member; Sherie Park, Valley Star; Adam Martinez, Michelle Ortiz, Jeanette Montoya, Virginia Espinosavolunteer; Michele O'Brien, Daniel McCluskey, Lorraine Smith, Ed Marble, Stella Grosso, Stacy McLemore, TEAM House; Patricia Barnes, Paul Hiestand, Connie Sisifa, David Redondo, Rosalia Moreno, Tom Zaremba, Joe Gomez, Nicole Speake, Faith Ikeda, Michele O'Brien, Jose Lopez, Barbanta Cretty; Lindsey, Matthew Parra, Pathways; Jonathan Labib, Joshua Bongga, CSUSB nursing student; Alma Serrato, Gil Navarro, CA Parents' Association; Wayne Henkelmann, Mental Health Court; Joe Guzman, EMQff; Alicia Cortes, Lupita Mendez, Alex Fajardo, El Sol; Leea Kasten, ITS; Eric Murillo-Angelo, VCSS; Hanna Keith, Charles Pearson, Community Hospital; Greg Vander-Haeghen, Smoky, Sandi Bentz, Joseph Lewis, Amazing Place; Robin Freeman, Family Service Agency; Steven Hale, Valley Star; Andrew Williams, Reach Out; CaSonya Thomas, Viviana Esparza, Clifford, Becky Giroux, Danielle Taylor, Cheryl Long, Michael Sweitzer, Nathan Trujillo, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Michelle Dusick, Sherri Misener, Doris Turner, Laretta Ross, Imo Momoh, Cynthia Velasco, Greg Rossler, Jennifer Gonzalez, Janeth Tran, Erica Watkins, Cristina Froude, Joanne Mitchel, Don Charboneau, David Denkers, Erica Porteous, Anna Leichliter, Tracy Bomberger, Jaime Gonzalez, Doug Fazekas, André Bossieux, Susanne Kulesa, Aidery Hernandez, Tim Jackson, Mike Schertell, Yvonne Love, Chris Morton, Athanase Pavlidis, Department of Behavioral Health (DBH). Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

In the absence of Chair McGee-Stehsel, Vice Chair Monica Wilson called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

Debi Pasco announced the appointment of Ed O'Brien to the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) First District by Supervisor Robert Lovingood on 6/3/14.

Tab 2: Review Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) agenda of 6/5/14. Vice Chair Monica Wilson called for a motion to move the Public Hearing and New Business items after the Cultural Competency Award of Excellence.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Veatrice Jews/Troy Mondragon

AYES: Monica Wilson, Ed O'Brien, Mike Grabhorn, Chris Massa, Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

Tab 3: Review BHC minutes of 5/1/14.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Mike Grabhorn/ Chris Massa

AYES: Monica Wilson, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Troy Mondragon, Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gil Navarro, student advocate, provided constructive feedback for the use of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding. Many families in San Bernardino County live in poverty with no transportation. If a student misses a clinic appointment, parent has to reschedule and come back another day. He demands that DBH provide client transportation to clinic appointments. Mr. Navarro maintains the Unruh Civil Rights Act mandates the rights of clients, ensuring families get to the clinic so students do not miss school.

Matthew Parra's participation at the clubhouse has strengthened his quality of life and character. He used to be homeless. He thanked all the clubhouse partners for their daily inspiration.

Stella Grosso stated that prior to attending the clubhouse she was in and out of the hospital. She has now been out of hospital for a year and a half. She participates in groups, attended Evening with the Stars and serves as Secretary of the consumer board.

Lupita Mendez asked who has final decision on which Innovation projects move forward? Director CaSonya Thomas responded that the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) reviews and approves the Innovation Plan. Through the annual review process and feedback received during stakeholder forums, Director Thomas recommends to the Board of Supervisors the adoption of the MHSA Annual Update which includes a description of new and ongoing programs and services.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Nomination: "Danielle Taylor, Ethics and Compliance Coordinator, always looks for balance as it relates to clients and their environment. She strives to achieve a level of empathy which I believe will assist the clients and staff. Danielle and I worked on a project to develop a policy for Zero Tolerance. This policy helps protect both the clients and staff. Danielle reviewed issues like training and development for staff and worked to assure clients would receive fair and professional care after an episode".

CONGRATULATIONS DANIELLE!

PUBLIC HEARING – MHSA Three-Year Integrated Plan

Michelle Dusick, MHSA Coordinator stated that according to CA regulations the MHSA Three-Year Integrated Plan (Plan) includes each MHSA component:

- Community Services and Supports
- Capital Facilities and Technological Needs
- Workforce Education and Training
- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Innovation Projects

Stakeholder feedback was gathered throughout the year during regular monthly stakeholder meetings and seven special sessions conducted in March 2014. A draft Plan was prepared and circulated to stakeholders for review and comment from 4/7/14 - 5/7/14. 148 comments were received; 11 comments were directed at the Plan, 137 comments were regarding the planned end date of one Innovation Project. A summary of comments received and the response will be included in the Plan. The Plan will be presented to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval on 6/17/14. Within 30 days of BOS approval the Plan will be submitted to the MHSOAC.

Linda Hart asked if the public will be able to view DBH's response to stakeholder input prior to submission to MHSOAC. Director Thomas responded that information can be found on the Clerk of Board website, posted 72 hours prior to the Board of Supervisors meeting to be held on 6/17/14. Documents will be found under the MHSOAC Three-Year Integrated Plan Board Agenda Item.

Alex Fajardo requested a letter of response from the BHC for his letter dated 5/5/14, "Response to MHSOAC Integrated Plan 2014-14 through FY 2016-17."

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

Affirm the process of the MHSOAC Three-Year Integrated Plan

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Veatrice Jews / Ed O'Brien

AYES: Monica Wilson, Mike Grabhorn, Chris Massa, Troy Mondragon, Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

Review Purchase of State Hospital Beds MOU

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Veatrice Jews / Ed O'Brien

AYES: Monica Wilson, Mike Grabhorn, Chris Massa, Troy Mondragon, Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Vice Chair Monica Wilson thanked everyone for participating in the many May Mental Health Month activities to fully embrace the concept that health and wellness not only improve health in the mind, body and spirit, but also maximizes one's potential to lead a full and productive life.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Mike Grabhorn stated that Lupita Mendez, El Sol, presented at the First District Advisory Committee meeting in May. He attended the Gang & Drug Task Force meeting with SELPA. He continues to work on a county ordinance prohibiting the sale of synthetic drugs in this county. He met with Cindi Burklow, Executive Director of the High Desert Child, Adolescent and Family Services Center to tour their facility and discuss services.

Commissioner Ed O'Brien's career choice is the defense of the indigent in the criminal justice system, assisting mental health clients on involuntary commitments and those unable to challenge their circumstances. He looks forward to learning many new things and working with the BHC and DBH.

Third District:

Commissioner Mondragon stated that Mental Health Solidarity Day was celebrated locally at the clubhouses and CSUSB; people coming together to promote mental health on the same day sends a powerful message. He continues to link clients at Central City Lutheran Mission with TEAM House.

Commissioner Chris Massa stated that the BHC Annual Report Committee is working on the draft. He attended many very exciting events during May Mental Health Month. He also participated in anger management classes and facilitator training.

Fifth District:

Treasurer Veatrice Jews attended the DBH Expo, Evening with the Stars and the Community Partner Meet and Greet. On May 18, twelve local churches participated in a Solidarity Day of Worship. In addition, Mental Health Friendly Congregations Kick Off event will be held on 6/14/14, from 9am-12pm, Inghram Community Center, 2050 N. Mount Vernon Street in San Bernardino.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Thomas thanked the members of the Behavioral Health Commission for their amazing outreach and engagement at all the May Mental Health Month activities.

San Bernardino County is proud of its active stakeholder process and valued input received. Lessons learned in regards to Innovation programs include; should the department invest in time limited projects or bricks and mortar at all? We are learning there may be unintended consequences with time limited projects. After careful review of program goals and objectives, it is my responsibility to recommend continued programs to the Board of Supervisors. No matter how difficult that decision, it is my responsibility.

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Athanase Pavlidis and Yvonne Love, DBH Patients’ Rights presented information about the Dignity + Respect = Empowerment Campaign, designed to assist clients in preparing for appointments with healthcare providers. During May Mental Health Month, Patients’ Rights participated in mental health awareness activities with patients at Sierra Vista and Shandin Hills skilled nursing facilities.

Doris Turner and Laretta Ross, Office of Consumer and Family Affairs, provided “File for Life” cards to the Commission and members of the audience. The “File for Life” card is a tool to list your medications and emergency contacts so that first responders are able to determine your best care during an emergency.

Gary Bustin thanked Mike Schertell, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios and Kristen Mungcal for coming up with a solution to ensure Amazing Place members are able to get to the clubhouse after the move to the new site in Ontario.

ADJOURNMENT: Today’s meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Monica Wilson
Vice Chair, Behavioral Health Commission

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission