

City of St. Louis
Mental Health Board
of Trustees

4144 Lindell Blvd. • Suite 300 • St. Louis, MO 63108
(314)535-6964 • Fax (314)535-6584

*** * * MEETING MINUTES * * ***

Minutes of the April 20, 2004 Board Meeting

Attendance:

Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.
Mary Calzaretta
Chrissie Barfield Campbell
Clement Cann
Neil Duncan
Marguerite Grandelious
Mary Haberberger
Ruby Jones
William L. Kincaid, M.D.
Melvin Tann

Don Cuvo, Executive Director

The meeting was chaired by President Dr. William Kincaid.

1. **Community Comments** - Rev. Robert Buckner, Friends With A Better Plan-Community Action Program, introduced Latricia Thurman, the organization's executive director, as well as a number of college students who are trained to deliver their program in schools.

Fred Marquard, Crime Victim Advocacy Center, discussed Aid For Victims of Crime's new name. He distributed a flyer promoting National Crime Victims Rights Week.
2. **Minutes** - The Minutes of the February meeting were approved as mailed.
3. **Monthly Grants Report** - Randy Breese presented the monthly grants reports. Randy noted that all items were usual and customary, and that nothing unusual was to be noted. Randy did point out, however, that the budget items were missing on pg. 6 of the report packet. Randy noted that Connie from John Bagwell's office had come out to fix this problem, but it seems to have returned. He said he would look into this.

4. **Approval of FY'05 Budget** - Don Cuvo made a few comments on the proposed FY'05 Budget. Don said that anticipated interest income has been reduced for the 3rd year. This will impact the amount we can make available for grants this year. In the past 2 years, administrative savings were used to avoid this reduction affecting grants. Don noted that we must become more cautious on planned spending from the reserve. He said that MHB has always paid for Special Initiatives, such as the Juvenile Justice Initiative, from the reserves. But, with the recession beginning to hit us hard, with big increases in pension contributions and reduced interest income, it is unwise to spend from the reserve. Beginning this year, MHB will finance Special Initiatives from the total amount available for grants, rather than from reserves. Trustees approved the proposed FY'05 budget.
5. **Resolution to Appropriate Funds for Grants** - Trustees approved a resolution appropriating \$1,537,597 for grants which address the Investment Priorities; \$133,000 for the Juvenile Justice Initiative; and \$125,000 for the new mental health services for Immigrants and Refugees Initiative. The resolution, also, authorized a continuation of the matching funds relationship with the Department of Mental Health for \$300,000.
6. **Election of Officers** - Ruby Jones proposed as officers Dr. Kincaid - President, Marguerite Grandelious - Vice-President and Mary Calzaretta - Secretary-Treasurer. She asked for nominations from the floor and having heard none, she moved that the slate of proposed officers be approved. The slate was approved.
7. **Resolution to Assign Contracts to Community Alternatives** - Community Alternatives has changed its corporate status from a Limited Liability Corporation to a Not for Profit Organization. A resolution was approved assigning current MHB contracts to the new entity.
8. **Discussion of Grant Applications to Date** - Dr. Kincaid noted that he thought the applications made it easier to see what we are getting for the money. Dr. Kincaid reported to the board that the Investment Priority 4 subcommittee had discussed the fact that their priority area had many more applications than any other area. Dr. Kincaid and Mary Calzaretta noted that this seemed inconsistent with the board's approach of trying to award at least one grant in each of the funding priorities. Randy Breese noted that the funding priorities had been established over time to ensure that areas of need which could not compete on an even playing field with the "traditional mental health services" had their own priorities added. The current structure was designed to prevent exactly this kind of change. This was established as the needs assessments were completed and, again, as the board approved the funding priorities/investment priorities for the application processes over the past 9 years. Randy, further, noted that for the next 3-year cycle this is already one of the key changes we have identified for review. We still believe that we have too many different priorities and hope that the Trustees will focus on the list during the next needs assessment, strategic plan and funding cycles. Randy, also, noted that it is likely that Rennselaerville Institute will assist us in bringing the funding priorities in line with our new "investment" approach.

Dr. Kincaid suggested that the board have a special committee to consider the distribution of the grants for the recommendation to the full board. After some discussion, it was decided that the Investment Priority Committee Chairs (Chrissie Barfield-Campbell, Marguerite Grandelious and Mary Calzaretta) will serve on the committee. Dr. Kincaid requested, however, that all Trustees be invited to attend as well. Don asked what other comments the trustees had. Mary Haberberger noted that the applications were easier to read and the Q & A helps put everything into context. Neil Duncan noted that he, also, thought the new format was easier to read and understand.