

City of St. Louis
Mental Health Board
of Trustees

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

Minutes of the May 19, 2005, Board Meeting

Attendance:

Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.

Mary Calzaretta

Chrissie A. Barfield Campbell

Clement Cann, Jr.

Marguerite E. Grandelious

Ruby Jones

Melvin A. Tann

The meeting was chaired by President Mary Calzaretta.

Community Comments - Kriste Sobbe, OHALP/Covenant House reminded trustees of the needs of the older adolescent, especially those who have dropped out of school.

Resolution Approving Continuation Funding for Service Grants - Don Cuvo distributed Conflict of Interest forms for trustees to complete. No trustee disclosed a conflict. Don said that the resolution authorizes MHB to continue funding for the service grants approved last May and provides for a 3% cost of living increase. All funded programs received site visits and several received their scheduled financial review. All programs were in compliance and are eligible for continuation funding. Discovering Options' 2nd year funding request received special scrutiny because they requested funding slightly above 3%. Trustees approved continuation funding for all funded programs, except for Discovering Options. Carter Whitson, grants manager, then reviewed Discovering Options' request. The additional "one time funds" are for the purpose of completing a program evaluation. Trustees, then, approved continuation funding for Discovering Options.

Strategic Planning - Mary Calzaretta provided background. She said that the planning process is at a point where trustees expressed a need to have more detailed information about the services proposed for funding in the Children's Services Plan. Since this was not originally anticipated, it will be necessary for the trustees to temporarily meet more frequently.

The evening's topic was Promoting Positive Youth Development. Mary Calzaretta introduced special guests Jamala Rogers, Youth Council for Positive Development and Jama Dodson, St. Louis for Kids. They provided extensive information on both the theory and current practices for Youth Development. Jamala said that Youth Development is a process, an approach and a set of practices which emphasize the need to provide support for youth so they can develop their full potential. She pointed out special features which should be present in all youth development programs. She urges trustees to consider funding programs which meet basic standards or to provide funds to assist them to meet basic standards.

Jama Dodson, said that while her agency has a broad outlook, St. Louis for Kids has a special interest in promoting after school programs. She distributed a report, "When School is Out," which is a survey of the supply of licensed and school-based after school programs. She also reviewed the minimum standards that all after school programs should adhere to. Both she and Jamala emphasized the importance of transition from one developmental stage to the next and how services provided during these critical periods can make the difference between positive outcomes or not.