



Saint Louis Mental Health Board

INVESTING IN PROGRAMS THAT WORK

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* * * MEETING MINUTES * * *

Minutes of the April 17, 2014, Board Meeting

Attendance:

*Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.
Terrell Carter
Linda Grayson
Carolyn Jackson
Philip Minden (by phone)
Nina R. North-Murphy
Roy Wilson, M.D.*

Others Attending:

*William J. Kuehling, Polsinelli
Carl Toler, Anders CPA's + Advisors*

Jama Dodson, Executive Director

The Meeting was chaired by Chair Nina North-Murphy.

Community Comments – Dan Underwood, Pat Mobley and Maggie LaMore from Legal Services of Eastern Missouri presented case examples of the work they are doing on behalf of individuals with behavioral or developmental conditions that need help navigating the complex governmental or educational systems to get the help they need. They thanked MHB for the funding that makes their advocacy services possible.

Eric Nelson, Alicyn Reed, Aaron Harris, and Warren Terrell from Fathers' Support Center spoke about the program and how it benefits participants.

Installation of Board Officers – Nina North-Murphy announced that as of this date, Board Officers are installed for their one year term extending through the April 2015 Board meeting. Elected at the March 2014 meeting, the officers are: Chair, Nina North-Murphy; Vice-Chair, Roy Wilson; Secretary/Treasurer, Carolyn Jackson. In accordance with the By-Laws, these individuals also form the Executive Committee.

Minutes – The Minutes of the March 2014, Board Meeting were approved as mailed.

Quarterly Financial Report – Carl Toler, CPA with Anders CPA’s + Advisors, presented the Quarter 3 financial report consisting of the year-to-date Revenue/Expense Report and the Balance Sheet. Most all expense items are on track (or slightly underspent) at this point in the year. However, unless there are more uncollected taxes paid in the 4th quarter than in past years, it appears the revenue will fall short of the proposed budget. Since the budget was conservative to begin with (assuming a 2% reduction from the previous year), this is somewhat unexpected. However, as the expenses are somewhat under-budget, it is likely that we can expect close to a break-even position by year end.

Vote on Resolution Authorizing Additional Funds for Care Access for New Americans (CANA) – Jama explained that in 2013 the CANA system served individuals from 23 different countries of origin, 76% of whom needed translation services in order to access mental health services. This year, there is even greater diversity in the interpretation and translation needs of consumers. The Resolution presented proposes an additional \$7K to cover the additional costs for interpretation and associated costs through the end of the federal fiscal year. In addition, another \$10K was requested to cover expenses for an evaluation of the CANA system. The motion was made and seconded. Some discussion followed affirming the importance of evaluation of programs to determine their efficacy in every area that MHB funds. The vote was unanimous to approve the Resolution for \$17,000 additional CANA funds from Mental Health Fund.

Vote on Resolution to Authorize Supportive Housing Funding for Queen of Peace Center- Miami Apartments – Jama noted that this item was not in the original tentative budget as Queen of Peace Center had only just responded this week to a request for follow up from the Housing Committee. The Committee reviewed the proposal with changes and recommended approval of the proposed permanent supported housing project to be developed and operated by Queen of Peace Center in South City. The motion was made and seconded to approve the Resolution authorizing funds for the project from the Board’s Housing Fund. The Resolution was approved unanimously.

Staff Report -- Jama summarized the strategic planning follow up session with Frank Petrus on April 10. She asked Roy to further detail the focus of the discussion that night and what the group came up with as next steps. One of the next steps was to bring together a team of board and staff to clarify the vision of MHB and its “value proposition” to the community.

Roy and Linda volunteered to be the board representatives in this effort. Jama will solicit staff to create a team on the staff side as well. In addition, Roy offered the services of his wife who does research on social return on investment (SROI) to help MHB further clarify where we need to focus in the future.

Jama distributed a written staff report for the period since the board meeting in February, and then made comments about the most important themes. Specifically, the new grants management software being installed will revolutionize the way the Mental Health Board will be doing business in the future. Also, the Ready by 21 collective impact initiative is one in which MHB staff have invested considerable time--and will likely continue well into the future.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 P.M.