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

Minutes of the March 19, 2009, Board Meeting

Attendance:

Leon E. Ashford, Ph.D.
Mary Calzaretta
Stephen F. Doss
Ruby Jones
Caroline Korybut
Philip Minden
Brooke Sehy
Jason Spaetti

Don Cuvo, Executive Director

The meeting was chaired by Secretary-Treasurer Stephen F. Doss.

Community Comments – Azi Hakim, Queen of Peace Center, reviewed the current services offered at Queen of Peace Center. He said, based on their success with traumatic recovery services for women, they will be broadening the scope of the Center to a Family Recovery Program.

Sheroo Mukhtiar, Almost Home, told trustees about the purchases made with the MHB capital improvements grant. She said that the participants' bedroom furniture has been upgraded, as well as a new door entry security system.

Jessica Hentoff, Circus Harmony, and four program participants demonstrated circus arts skills learned by participating in the program. They tumbled, juggled and built human pyramids.

Meg Feeley, Voices for Children, updated trustees on Voices and the clients served by the organization.

Minutes – Minutes of the February Meeting were approved as mailed.

Election of Officers – Dr. Leon Ashford said that a Nominating Committee, composed of Nina Murphy, Brooke Sehy and Leon Ashford, was appointed at the January meeting. They met and are presenting the following slate of officers: Marguerite Grandelious, Chair; Brooke Sehy, Vice Chair; Jason Spaetti for Secretary-Treasurer. He asked if there were nominations from the floor. Hearing none, a motion to elect the slate of officers was unanimously approved.

Reserve Committee Report – Marylou Calzaretta said that a Reserve Committee, composed of Robert Franken, Jason Spaetti, Phil Minden and herself, was appointed at the January meeting to review the definition and limits of the Long Term Reserve and Contingency Fund. Mary said that reserve issues underwent a thorough review during the 2001 strategic planning process, when the purpose/use began to be redefined as a disaster relief fund to assist with mental health needs after a natural or man made emergency. The committee proposed the following definition: As a public mental health organization, MHB should maintain reserve funds between 25-100 % of annual expenditures, in order to make a meaningful contribution to recovery, in the event of a man-made or natural emergency. The committee recommended that, at this time, the Long Term Reserve remain at the current level. The committee recommendation was approved.

Approval of Revised Form for Grant Review – Dr. Leon Ashford reviewed a revision of the *Individual Board Member Review Form*, which was originally approved last October. The revision provided a numerical scoring system so applications could be more objectively compared with each other. There were a number of concerns expressed, including the timing of the proposed revision. A motion to table was approved.

Update on Children's Fund Grant Review Process – Deputy Director Meg Monti provided the following update: MHB utilized a two step application process; 125 Bids or pre-applications were received; 90 organizations were invited to submit full applications, 84 were received. Trustees were asked to select application review committees corresponding to each of the 4 Goals. Committee recommendations will be presented at the May 21st board meeting.