

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
October 27, 2011
MINUTES – APPROVED

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carole McKindley-Alvarez at 4:32 p.m.

Commissioners:

Evelyn Centeno, District II

Floyd Overby, District II

Dave Kahler, District IV

Annis Pereyra, District II

Peggy Kennedy, District III

Gina Swirsding, District I

Carole McKindley-Alvarez, District 1

Sam Yoshioka, District IV

Colette O'Keeffe, District IV

Absent:

Teresa Pasquini, District I (Excused)

Other Attendees:

Alexis Adoradov

Lia Bristol, Representative from Supv. Karen Mitchoff's Office

Brenda Crawford, Executive Director, Mental Health Consumer Concerns

Peggy Harris, Mental Health Consumer Concerns

Daniel Hart, Visitor

Susan Medlin, Contra Costa Mental Health/Office of Consumer Empowerment

Holly Page, HS Planner/Evaluator, Mental Health Administration

Maria Ramirez, Mental Health Consumer Concerns

Roberto Roman, Office of Consumer Empowerment

Suzanne Tavano, Mental Health Director

Jennifer Tuipulotu, Office of Consumer Empowerment

Alexander Von Gimbut, Visitor

Nancy Von Gimbut, Visitor

Janet Marshall Wilson, Patients Rights, Mental Health Consumer Concerns

Karen Wise, ANKA Behavioral Health

Staff: Karen Shuler, Interim Executive Assistant

2. Public Comments

- 1 Nancy Van Gimbot requesting advocacy for her husband, Alexander, in obtaining services and medications and navigating the Medi-Cal/Medicare system.
- 2 Brenda Crawford of MHCC spoke about the need for a larger space for their Richmond facility, and asked for the MHC's help in finding a facility so people don't have to be turned away. Carole suggested referring this to the Capital Facilities Committee.
- 3 Daniel Hart expressed concern over the materials given to families when a consumer is 5150'd. The need for more consumer input was expressed.

3. **Announcements**

- 1 Dave reported on the Re-entry/Re-alignment meeting he and Annis attended this morning. 30 persons attended. Martinez Jail Commander Matt Schuler stated there are currently 850 inmates and they are short on space for male inmates. Chief Probation Officer Phil Kader stated the County received 90 people so far and expect about 25 per month – 41% East County, 21% West County, and 27% Central County. He stated things that were expected to happen in 8 months are happening now. We needed a year to prepare but only had 3 months. The Executive Committee of the Contra Costa County Community Corrections Partnership is committed to convening a Community Advisory Board made up of community members to 1) provide input of community needs and assessment of implementation; 2) review data on realignment outcomes; 3) advise about community engagement strategies; 4) develop recommendations for ongoing realignment planning; 5) work with County agencies to design programs for implementation in the County; and 6) assure decisions are strategies are aligned with the County’s Reentry Strategic Plan. Annis mentioned that D.A. Peterson is against having community members on an advisory committee. The Criminal Justice Committee will follow this issue in their meetings.
- 2 It was announced that the November meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held Thursday, November 10th and abbreviated to 1 hour (4:30-5:30) and followed by a Special Meeting (5:30-7:30) to address the Commission’s role in the MHSA process. Both meetings will be held at 2425 Bisso Lane, 1st Floor Conference Room.
- 3 The December meeting will be a planning meeting. It will be held Tuesday, December 13th, from 3-5. Location TBA. Committees were asked to bring their goals and objectives to the meeting. A copy will need to be submitted to Karen by Tuesday, December 6th.
- 4 Evelyn announced she had received an award from her community as one of the 100 most influential Filipino women in the United States. She was congratulated by those present.

4. **Review and Approve Minutes of the Mental Health Commission Meeting of September 22nd, 2011.**

M: Peggy Kennedy ; S: Sam Yoshioka. Discussion: None. Vote: Passed 9-0 Unanimous.

5. **Acting Mental Health Director’s Report** (*See written report*)

- 1 Behavioral Health Integration
It is moving forward. Some action steps were discussed at the October meeting – developing a Behavioral Health action plan. Deadline 11/4.
- 2 Psychiatric Emergency Demonstration Proposal
This is really about federal regulations that prevent ages 22-64 from using their Medi-cal at IMD’s. We cannot put in a claim for Medi-Cal if they go to John Muir, for example. This proposal would have the state apply on our behalf to CMS.

3 Children's Full Service Partnership

The evaluation has been an ongoing process. Started with dated data that didn't stand up over time. Went back to the W& I Code.

Public Comment:

Alexis Adoradov spoke regarding the redirection of MHSA dollars and EPSDT back into the Antioch clinic. Spanish speaking services are being pulled back in far east county. The process of not being a partner is not in the spirit of where the county wants to go. She asked who is overseeing the processes for the county now, and would like CPAW or MHC to oversee.

Carole asked what the timeframe is for data collection. Holly said next 2-4 weeks. All records are being reviewed and there is a process that is interactive with the contractors. Brenda said it was discussed briefly at CPAW.

4 Medicare Claiming

A letter is being sent out to contractors because there are changes.

Gina asked if the federal government gives funds to the state for mental health.

Answer: Yes.

5 Capital Facilities

The process is stalled because architectural plans need to be reviewed by the planning dept. before we can go forward. Floyd asked how the level of care would be different, and if a discussion has gone on about opening the empty ward?

Suzanne said it is not in our purview. Floyd told about his son's experience.

Suzanne acknowledged we do need beds. Annis: Is ARC going to be in another physical location now? Suzanne. It will be on the same side as the hospital.

6 Hiring Update

No discussion – refer to written report.

7 Level of Care Measures

No discussion – refer to written report.

8 AB1297

No discussion – refer to written report.

9 Katie A

Katie A is Class action suit regarding adequate support for foster children – the state department agreed to settle. Settlement negotiations are now ongoing.. It is the State who will settle, but our county is responsible.

10 AB109.

To clarify: People coming from state prisons are going straight into the community under Probation – no jobs, no homes, no Medi-Cal eligibility. They are expected to report to Probation on their own.

It also covers people committing new offenses and people on probation who commit new crimes.

6. **Ancillary Reports**

CPAW-Annis said she felt it was a dysfunctional meeting.

7. Standing Committees

Criminal Justice Committee

- 1 Recommendation to appoint Gina Swirsding to be a member of the Criminal Justice Committee.
M-Peggy Kennedy; S-Sam Yoshioka. Discussion: None. Vote: Passed 9-0 Unanimous.
- 2 Recommendation to formulate a letter stating the MHC's position regarding support of the use of the 5150crisis.com website by local law enforcement. Gina said website needs to be rewritten before it is approved. Motion withdrawn by Dave.

Nominating Committee

- 1 Recommendation regarding the appointment of Juliet Scott to a District III position on the Mental Health Commission.
M-Sam Yoshioka; S-Colette O'Keeffe. Discussion: Peggy asked if she had been interviewed and was told she had. Annis said that a Consumer position is needed and on her application she had checked boxes for Consumer as well as Family Member. Colette replied that the applicant said she considered herself more in the family member position. Sam said this shouldn't be an issue because we're getting someone who is both a family member and a consumer. Her daughter is in the county mental health system. Susan mentioned there are some issues where consumers and family members disagree. Colette said she is an autonomous, articulate adult. It is her choice as how to best represent herself. Vote: Passed 8-0-1 (Centeno abstained.)
- 2 Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission.
Carole McKindley-Alvarez and Peggy Kennedy were nominated for re-election as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively.
- 3 Nominations for the Executive Committee
Names were requested to be submitted to the Nominating Committee before November's MHC meeting.

Quality of Care

- 1 Transportation: Recommendations for an Action Plan on Bus Access.
Colette reported that the best we can hope for is to maintain what we have. We need data. A motion was made to have Colette work in conjunction with the CCMH Transportation Task Force to develop an Action Plan.
M: Peggy Kennedy; S-Evelyn Centeno. Discussion: Gina said it was sad that people didn't want to take public transportation to see what it's like. Brenda said she'd like to work with Colette on this as transportation is an issue for people getting to MHCC. Do a needs assessment at public clinics – what are needs; what are barriers? Susan: The transportation committee at CCMH is planning on doing focus groups on harassment on busses. Colette said she would be delighted to work with Brenda. She added she would not like to do a focus group but would like to start with hard data. Annis said there are housing sites in Pittsburg but transportation is a problem. 10% transportation cuts

coming up.

Vote: Recommendation to submit plan to the CCMH Transportation Task Force
Passed 9-0 Unanimous.

- 2 Committee will submit recommendations following meeting with Patricia Tanqueray.
- 3 The Committee is on track to submit a quality improvement action plan to the Commission.
- 4 No discussion

Quality of Care Consumer Workforce Supportive Services Task Force

- 1 Still working on getting collaborating with Vocational Services and the Clubhouse – then the Task Force will move on to workplace safety
- 2 The Task Force is compiling data from SPIRIT on employments, volunteering, barriers to employment, etc.

Capital Facilities Committee

- 1 It was suggested the Commission be made aware of a lawsuit regarding cuts in funding to the disabled. Annis suggested that people in mental health should join forces in this law suit to keep services from being cut.
No action was taken.
- 2 A goal of this committee is continued advocacy for a Crisis Residential Facility at 20 Allen Street in Martinez. The Committee would like to request an update on the status of 20 Allen.
It is still in limbo
- 3 The Committee is concerned because of a possible overlap with the Quality of Care Committee on the issues of transportation and housing. We have not focused on housing other than recommending that Sandy come to the MHC meeting. Focus of Capital Facilities is to get things located where consumers can get to them. Annis asked Colette to give input to the housing committee. Brenda mentioned she has been looking at the old 24th Street Clinic building for a Richmond location for MHCC. Who has authority? Is it a viable option? Gina stated she is for the 24th street location. Colette added that it is bus accessible.
- 4 There will be no November meeting of the Capital Facilities Committee. They will be doing a site visit to Crestwood, Angwin.
- 5 The December meeting of the Capital Facilities Committee will be held November 30th from 3:00-5:00.
Public Comment:
Maria Ramirez stated she is having problems getting services for her granddaughter in West County.

8. Adjourn Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Shuler, Interim Executive Assistant