

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
08.23.2012 MINUTES**

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. by Chairperson Carole McKindley-Alvarez.

Commissioners present:

Louis Buckingham, District III
 Evelyn Centeno, District V
 Jerome Crichton, District III
 Peggy Kennedy, District II
 Carole McKindley-Alvarez, District I
 Colette O'Keeffe, District IV
 Teresa Pasquini, District I (Arrived at 4:40; no votes affected)
 Annis Pereyra, District II
 Gina Swirsding, District I
 Monique Tarver, District III
 Sam Yoshioka, District IV

Commissioners Absent: Dave Kahler, District IV
 Supv. Karen Mitchoff, BOS Repr.

Non-Commissioners present:

Laura Case, Supv. Mitchoff's office
 Jack Feldman, MHC District V Applicant
 Doug Halpern, Office of Consumer Empowerment
 Roberto Roman, Office of Consumer Empowerment
 Susan Medlin, Office of Consumer Empowerment
 Mariana Moore, Human Services Alliance
 Karen Shuler, MHC Executive Assistant
 Janet Wilson, Mental Health Consumer Concerns

2. Public Comment

- 1) Jack Feldman re: more transportation for mental health.
 Mental Health Consumer Concerns is totally client-run, so no one deserves MHSA money more than that organization. A client-run shuttle service is needed to get clients to and from the wellness centers. He hopes some MHSA monies could be carved out for this. He would also like more County Connection buses to be added.
- 2) Janet Wilson mentioned 16 residents are being displaced from Dr. Kumar's board and care due to a foreclosure. Other homes are also in danger of closing.

3. Announcements

- 1) Carole welcomed newly-appointed Commissioners Louis Buckingham (District III Family Member) and Jerome Crichton (District III Member-at-Large).
- 2) Revisiting the Current Bylaws
 Carole had asked for suggestions for revising the Bylaws to be sent to staff. No response was received so the issue is being tabled at this time. Items may still be sent in and will be referred to the Executive Committee.
- 3) Clarifying how tardies are noted in the Minutes.

Carole explained that tardies were only notated when it impacted a vote. In order to be consistent, from now on all tardies will be notated across the board.

- 4) Evelyn Centeno announced she is resigning from the Commission and will be concentrating on other activities.

4. Approval of the Minutes from July 26, 2012

- A motion to approve the Minutes was made by Sam and seconded by Peggy.
Discussion: Referring to her comments on page 8, second bullet under Commissioner Announcements, Evelyn said the Minutes did not accurately reflect the intention of her remarks. She also mentioned she had been incorrect in saying no one else had been listed as being tardy in the Minutes. The Minutes were changed as follows: “Evelyn announced to the meeting that the Commission’s staff was ~~singling her out by writing in the Minutes when she was late but did not do that with anyone else~~ *not being consistent when listing tardies in the Minutes.*”
Vote: The Minutes were approved as changed by a unanimous vote.

5. Recommendation from the Executive Committee on the Director of Mental Health Interview Process.

- 1) Have three people represent the Mental Health Commission on the Interview Committee.
 - a. One from each position (family member, consumer, member-at-large). The Chair or Vice Chair will represent the member-at-large position.
Members will be representing the Commission and their appointed positions on the Commission and be required to attend all interview meetings (proposed interview dates: Sept. 24, 26 and 28 all day).
 - b. The Commission representatives must be knowledgeable and respectful of representing the Commission in the interview process, and be respectful of the process as well.
Carole McKindley-Alvarez or Peggy Kennedy will represent the MHC Member-at-Large position. Annis Pereyra will represent the MHC Consumer perspective and Sam Yoshioka will represent the MHC Family Member perspective.
- 2) Timeframe
The applicant is to be interviewed and appointed by October 1st.
If a suitable applicant is not found, the Commission requests that an Acting Mental Health Director be appointed by October from within the mental health system. (It was mentioned that Vic was asked to fill in as Acting Mental Health Director, but declined, preferring to continue his work as Adult Mental Health Program Chief. All other suitable candidates for Acting Mental Health Director are applying for the permanent position.) Teresa said she was disappointed Vic declined, but she understood. She also mentioned she was disappointed there was no one here at this meeting to represent the Mental Health Administration.
- 3) Included in the interview process would be representatives from two contract agencies – inside and outside the Human Services Alliance.
- 4) One frontline and one management staff would be representatives on the Interview Committee.

- A motion was made by Teresa and seconded by Colette to forward the above recommendations on the Director of Mental Health interview process from the Mental Health Commission to Behavioral Health Director Cynthia Belon.
Discussion: Sam asked how it parallels with BHI. Carole responded BHI had requested this of the MHC.
Vote: The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Commissioners were asked to bring their suggestions for interview questions to the Commission meeting.

No response was received by staff. Carole opened discussion for suggestions of interview questions.

- 1) (Annis) Describe a process which you initiated which addressed a critical system need and how you sought input and resolution by a collaborative effort which included the consumer, family and line staff voice/contractor voice, if appropriate.
 - 2) (Monique) Please describe how you view your role as the Mental Health Director will impact service delivery to the lives of individuals and families in our service system.
 - 3) (Monique) How do you intend to support peer-run organizations and collaborate with consumers and families to ensure social inclusion?
 - 4) (Monique) How do you intend to cultivate cultural responsiveness and address issues and concerns faced by unserved, underserved and inappropriately served consumers?
 - 5) (Colette) In your previous positions, what have you competently done to ensure transparency and what do you see as the role of the Mental Health Commission?
 - 6) (Sam/Carole) Are you familiar with the CCI/Change Agent process, the CPAW approach to the contracts and selection, such as Zia Partners, and how did you go about gaining that knowledge?
 - 7) (Jerome/Sam) What is your style of leadership and your style of management and do you see a difference between the two?
 - 8) (Teresa) Discuss your philosophy on the medical model and the recovery model -- and how the two are compatible or not.
 - 9) (Evelyn) What is your priority in improving the continuum of care?
 - 10) (Gina/Teresa/Susan) What do you believe regarding the need for leadership of consumers and family members in the stakeholder process, including people from diverse communities, and having multiple needs; the employment of consumers and family members throughout the local mental health plan; and what steps you would take to ensure the inclusion of both the consumer and family member perspective with meaningful participation?
- A motion was made by Jerome and seconded by Sam to forward the above recommendations for questions to be added to the *Supplemental Questionnaire for the Director, Mental Health Services* from the Mental Health Commission to Behavioral Health Director Cynthia Belon.
Discussion: There was discussion about membership of the Executive Team including consumers and family members, and there was clarification made that the Mental Health Director would not be in charge of assigning people to the Executive Team, but would be a member of it.
Vote: The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

6. Committee Reports

A. Capital Facilities Committee

The Committee continues to discuss housing issues and at next month's meeting will be discussing programming for the Crisis Residential Facility at 20 Allen.

The committee has a heavy agenda. There was too much for two Commissioners to handle and are soliciting Commissioners to join them. The issue of programming may fall under Quality of Care. The MHC has assigned MHSA oversight to this Committee, so we do need help in developing it. At the annual meeting we will suggest creating an MHSA Committee. Annis asked about the status of Housing Coordinator Sandy Rose. Carole will check on her status.

In response to a question from Gina about leaving a Committee, Carole mentioned that people should commit to a Committee for 1 calendar year.

B. Criminal Justice Committee

Due to holiday and vacation schedules, the Criminal Justice Committee did not meet in August.

C. Nominating Committee

1) Status of applicants

The Commission's recommendation to appoint Hiram "Jack" Feldman to the vacant District V Consumer Representative seat has been sent to Supv. Federal Glover. Carole spoke to Supv. Glover's office who said the appointment will be sent to the BOS for approval.

2) Commission vacancies:

District II Family Member

District V Family Member

Colette said the Committee will be seeking new applicants. She added the most reasonable way to recruit family members will be to go to the NAMI meetings and also place an ad in the NAMI newsletter. She said she would they would look into putting a patch ad on the internet, and advertising vacancies in the CC Times. Placing announcements on clinic bulletin boards was also suggested. Annis suggested recruiting someone knowledgeable of the children's system of care.

Meeting date change

Because of the difficulty in meeting notification requirements, the Nominating Committee is changing their meeting date/time to the 2nd Thursday of each month from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Location TBA.

3) Nominating Committee membership requirements

Newly-appointed Commissioner Louis Buckingham expressed interest in joining the Nominating Committee and that was accepted as a member.

D. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee recommends sending a letter to the Board of Supervisors explaining increased Commissioner responsibilities due to their involvement in community issues surrounding mental health ... basically updating the BOS on Commissioner activities.

Carole explained that the letter is: 1) to address that the MHC does play a very important role and should be respected; and 2) would that the MHC would like appointees who are able to actively participate so we can get things done. Additional responsibilities are because MHSA plans are now going to be approved locally and not by State DMH, creating the need for more oversight and knowledge by the MHC. The letter is to increase collaboration with BOS and keep the Commission on the BOS radar.

Staff was asked to place MHC or BOS positions on changes on the next EC agenda.

E. Quality of Care Committee

- 1) The Committee was asked to reconsider the wording on a recommendation regarding room and board issues they brought to last month's Commission meeting. County Counsel has informed the Commission Chair that the County does not do room and board placements so the motion will not be placed on the MHC Agenda. Vic Montoya and Beverly Fuhrman reported to the Committee that issues have been taken care of, but they will continue to monitor. The Committee requested an updated report in October and would like follow-up from people who came before the Commission.

Discussion at the Commission meeting:

Q: Were all board and cares looked at?

A: No, only the one questioned before the MHC.

Q: Is it licensed?

A: It is an unlicensed room and board.

A recommendation was made that the Committee work collaboratively with Janet Wilson about making a value statement. A lack of satisfaction was expressed with the response from Vic and Beverly. There was a comment about having the MHC be more proactive in working with consumers whether or not they're in a licensed facility. Other comments included the need for the Committee to follow through, and having an assessment about how consumers feel about where they live. The need for residential councils was also mentioned.

Q: Who is doing reports? Case workers?

A: Q of C Committee will follow up on this question.

Janet Wilson expressed the need for a county-wide system of peer-run boarding facilities, and working with disability rights people on a peer-driven coalition

Staff was asked to place "Peer-driven room and board coalition" on the Q of C Agenda.

- 2) The Committee will report to the Commission's September meeting on their site visit to Napa State Hospital.
Dave, Peggy, Carole and Sam went on the site visit.
- 3) At their September meeting, they will continue to discuss ways to secure free or low-cost dental care; and there will be discussion on developing and implementing a tool for consumer workforce support – maintaining a safe working environment for consumers.

7. **MHC Representative's Reports**

- 1) Behavioral Health Integration Steering Committee – Sam Yoshioka

The Steering Committee approved the Mission Statement and Core Values. Sam stated that we need to keep on the radar the integration of the MHC, AOD Board and Homeless Board in the near future. Carole clarified that this item was not a part of the BHI Steering Committee Report, and therefore could not be discussed. It can be brought to the Commission as a future agenda item. Concern about “inside information” being distributed as though it was official.

- 2) MHSA Social Inclusion Committee Report – Carole McKindley-Alvarez
Susan said we’re still planning the SI conference. We’ve had two training for photo voice participants. We spoke about BHI and how we can bring perspectives of consumers to the table.
- 3) CPAW Housing Committee Report – Annis Pereyra
Did not meet. There is no leadership.

8. Commissioner Announcements

Teresa: San Francisco Gate newspaper article. Teresa mentioned she was interviewed and briefly quoted. There were over 100 comments posted online, some very hurtful, some thoughtful. She said she is not supporting Laura’s Law, but is supporting having a conversation and wants MHC to be proactive.

9. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Shuler, Executive Assistant
Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission