

**Minutes of the
Winnebago County Mental Health Advisory Committee
Wednesday, July 9, 2014 @ 7:30 a.m.
Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford, Rockford, IL**

Present: Carol Klint, Dick Kunnert, Dr. Charles Smith, Angie Goral

Others Present: Dave Peterson, Rick Pollack, Harlan Johnson, Dr. Penny Billman, Karen Fiery, Representative John Cabello, and Lisa Gonzalez.

The meeting began at approximately 7:35 a.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Bacon welcomed everyone and indicated that the advisory committee thus far does not have a quorum to take votes but it is important to move forward with the agenda to assure a useful Mental Health Advisory Retreat scheduled for August 27, 2014. Those in attendance agreed that we ought to proceed with an informal discussion.

REVIEW OF June 11, 2014 MHAC Meeting Minutes:

The minutes for the June 11, 2014 meeting were included in the packet and in the mailing, but will be voted on at the next meeting of August 27, 2014.

FACILITATED GROUP DISCUSSION – Review of Tentative Agenda for August 27, 2014

Mr. Bacon and Karen Fiery reviewed the purpose of the planned August 27 retreat with the focus being on developing input and recommendations for combating the opioid epidemic in Winnebago County. Background materials were briefly reviewed to the degree that they could be helpful in eliciting feedback on agenda items for the planned retreat. Mr. Bacon and Ms. Fiery reviewed the draft agenda with the general format for eliciting for reviewing background data defining the scope of the problem in this community and contributing factors. This would be undertaken by soliciting input from various community leaders who have already been outspoken on this topic and have been on the frontline of increased service demand and community-wide impact of the epidemic. Names for this were discussed and invitations will be issued.

Further, there should be a review of current practices as compared to best practices with the intent of identifying gaps in local services that could be helpful going forward. It is then envisioned that there would be breakout groups to discuss which areas for potential intervention need to be prioritized both short and long term and to begin formulating potential areas for recommendations and next steps.

There was a wide range of feedback on this general outline but for the most part those present and involved in the discussion felt that this would make for a useful morning's work.

Representative Cabello reviewed his efforts in the Illinois House and other efforts going on at the State level. He commended MHAC for this focus on an important area of need. His office looks forward to recommendations and where he could be of assistance.

OTHER MATTERS / ADJOURNMENT:

There being no other matters before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

There was a reminder of the next meeting, Wednesday, August 27, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Maichle Bacon (Winnebago County Health Department)

Approved by the Mental Health Advisory Committee: _____
DATE