

**Minutes of the  
Mental Health Advisory Committee  
Wednesday, June 13, 2012 @ 7:30 a.m.  
Rosecrance, 1021 N. Mulford**

**Present:** Angie Goral, Carol Klint, Matthew Toohey, Philip Eaton, Dr. Marilyn Griffin, and Richard Kunnert,

**Others Present:** Barb Smith (LWV), Elaine Pfluger (LWV), Joe Capone (NAMI) and Mike Bacon

**INTRODUCTION**

There was a brief introduction of all present. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:35 a.m.

**MINUTES of MAY 9, 2012**

A motion made by Matt Toohey and seconded by Carol Klint to accept the minutes as presented with all members voting aye.

**REGION 2 WEST CRISIS SYSTEM, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH RESPONSE**

There was an extended discussion by members of the Advisory Committee on a proposed intervention system designed for Region 2 West developed in response to the planned closer of Singer Zone Center. This system was developed by Rosecrance and has been discussed at a couple of meeting prior to the Advisory Committee. Phase 1 of the proposed System includes acute care alternatives to address hospital ED department patients. Phase 2 would strive to intervene at even an earlier stage.

Mr. Eaton reminded everyone of how critical this is for the community's clients, patients and families suffering from behavioral health disorders. Client-based system of interventions would be more helpful and in the long run less costly or no more costly than the current system.

All Committee members joined in a discussion about the value of such a system and the critical need to identify resources to support such a system, especially in the face of the proposed Singer closure. It was suggested that there was need to meet with key community elected officials to discuss the framework for this transitional system design, especially since DMH will be releasing its own transition plan in the near future. Mr. Bacon agreed to work with the County Board Chairman's office to try and arrange a meeting of community leaders for this type of discussion.

**ILLINOIS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND JUSTICE**

Mr. Bacon shared the event that took place June 25 for the local announcement and press conference for the newly established Illinois Center of Excellence for Behavioral

Health And Justice established at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in partnership with a number of other entities including the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Courts, and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and the Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Mental Health. This Center of Excellence is designed as a statewide entity to provide evidence- based training, coordination and implementation assistance to create mental health drug courts and veteran court's as alternatives to incarceration. This initiative will be supported by a grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

### **CHANGE IN BYLAWS**

Mr. Bacon introduced the revised bylaws based on the prior Committee meeting discussion. This has been further reviewed by the State's Attorney's Office with new wording being underlined and old wording revised as lined-out wording. There was a brief discussion by Committee members of the bylaws that were presented for consideration. It was moved by Dick Kunnert and seconded by Carol Klint to accept the revised bylaws as present with all members voting aye.

### **COORDINATION WITH BOONE COUNTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Bacon briefly discussed the interest on the part of Boone County's newly appointed Advisory Committee to perhaps meet jointly from time to time. It was agreed that this would be appropriate since the service area includes largely both Winnebago and Boone Counties. Carol Klint volunteered to provide The Association of Community Mental Health Authorities of Illinois (ACMHAI) background information and manuals to Cindy Frank, their health director. The Committee expressing their appreciation for that outreach.

### **REPORTS FROM OTHER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEES**

Elaine Pfluger and Barb Smith from the League of Women Voters reported on their activities through the League that have continued to provide support and encouragement for local behavioral funding and their wish to continue to serve a meaningful role in the process as this Committee's work moves ahead.

Matt Toohey shared some of the work taking place through the Human Services Committee with their plan for a Candidates Forum for this fall that would more than likely be conducted with the assistance of League of Women's Voters. Tentatively the date for this Forum is October 1.

Joe Capone from NAMI reported on their work to develop a petition to the Governor not to cut mental health funding and services. This petition received over 5,000 signatures. The Committee expressed their appreciation for the work that continues to take place across the community in support of these vital services.

There were no other matters before the Committee for discussion. There was a motion made by Angie Goral and seconded by Matt Toohey to go into Executive Session for purpose of discussing membership recommendations with a roll call vote being conducted and all members voting aye.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At the conclusion of Executive Session, the Committee reconvened into regular session with concurrence of Committee members that Elaine Pfluger, Dave Hougan, Donny Parham and Michelle Rock names will be forwarded to Chairman Christian's office for consideration for the opening on the Mental Health Advisory Committee created by Sue Gran's resignation.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further items of business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, J. Maichle Bacon

Approved by the Mental Health Advisory Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE