

MHC Minutes 03.22.12 – Final

I. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Peggy Kennedy at 4:33 p.m.

Commissioner Attendees:

Evelyn Centeno, MHC Commissioner, District II
Dave Kahler, MHC Commissioner, District IV
Peggy Kennedy, MHC Commissioner, District III
Colette O’Keeffe, MHC Commissioner, District IV
Floyd Overby, MHC Commissioner, District II
Teresa Pasquini, MHC Commissioner, District I
Annis Pereyra, MHC Commissioner, District II
Juliet Scott, MHC Commissioner, District III
Monique Tarver, MHC Commissioner, District III

Absent:

Carole McKindley-Alvarez, MHC Commissioner, District I (Excused)
Karen Mitchoff, BOS Representative to the Commission (Excused)
Gina Swirsding, MHC Commissioner, District I (Excused)
Sam Yoshioka, MHC Commissioner District IV (Excused)

Non-Commissioner Attendees:

Lia Bristol, Supv. Mitchof’s Office
Louis Buckingham, Family Member
Brenda Crawford, MHCC
John Gragnani, Local 1
Peggy Harris, Consumer
Shayne Kaleo, Anka
Mariana Moore, Human Services Alliance
Maria Ramirez, MHCC
Mary Roy, MHSA Program Manager
Karen Shuler, MHC Executive Assistant
Janet Marshall Wilson, MHCC Patients Rights
Karen Wise, Anka

II. Public Comment

- 1) Brenda displayed some of the art work from the upcoming May 2 art show/reception. Brenda commented about the partnerships she as Executive Director has with members of the Commission. She said she values this relationship, but said there were boundaries. The internal workings of the MHCC have nothing to do with the Commission. She said MHCC has had outstanding marks from the county on their programs. She complained about recent interference in MHCC matters from the Commission staff and a Commissioner. She said she would like the Executive Committee to send an apology to the Chair of the MHCC Board of Directors about slanderous statements against MHCC and ANKA.
- 2) Janet said Vic told her the problem was the logjam in housing, and asked that 30% of any money coming in be dedicated to housing and housing supports. She asked that this county do what Fred Finch does in Alameda county for youth exiting the system. She read the “Toilet Assumption” – which says things will disappear if we ignore them (flush them down the toilet).
- 3) Louis Buckingham said the BOS should go to the media to promote mental health awareness.

III. Announcements

- March 22-25: Ram California Free Medical Services.
- March 26: “Overdosed America” Health Expo.
- April 2: 2012 Brown Act Training.
- April 21: Dentistry from the Heart Free Dental Care for Patients in Need.
- May 2: MHCC Art Show/Reception for Mary Ellen Copeland.
- Janet Wilson announced that on May 11: Day dedicated to the Olmstead Act in Berkeley from 10-4.
- May 18: Contra Costa’s New Frontiers in Healthcare Integration Conference presented by Rubicon.
- June 8th: Suicide Awareness Walk-a-Thon.

IV. **Approval of the Minutes from the January 26, 2012 Meeting**

(Carried over from February meeting.)

- Teresa/Evelyn. Mary Roy made corrections to her report in the January Minutes. Teresa explained again that she felt the Minutes gave the impression 51% should be consumers and family members – 18 and under clarification. Did not pass because there was no quorum in attendance who were at the January meeting. Place on April Agenda.

Approval of the Minutes from the February 23, 2012 Meeting.

- Did not pass because there was no quorum in attendance who were at the February meeting. Place on April Agenda.

V. **Mental Health Commission Committee Reports**

- **Nominating Committee Report from Committee Chair Colette O’Keeffe**

Due to lack of quorum, the Nominating Committee did not meet.

- Status of applicants.

Committee Chair Colette O’Keeffe reported there are currently 3 openings on the Mental Health Commission – all in District V (Supv. Glover), which stretches along the Delta from Hercules to East North Antioch. Applicant Dale Brodsky was interviewed by the Nominating Committee and approved by the Commission for appointment to the Member-at-Large seat in District II. The recommendation was sent to Supv. Uilkema January 27th. Supv. Uilkema said she could not appoint Ms. Brodsky unless Supv. Glover allowed Evelyn Centeno to move into the vacant seat in his district, where she now resides due to redistricting. Supv. Uilkema’s office sent this request to Supv. Glover, but they are still awaiting a reply. A request for an application was received from Jerome Crichton, who thought he lived in Supv. Glover’s district, but due to redistricting, he is in Supv. Piepho’s district, where there is no current opening. He was sent an application and told if he was interested, it would be kept on file until an opening occurred. District II Commissioner Floyd Overby is not seeking reappointment in June, which will open a District II Family Member seat. Applicant Dale Brodsky applied as both a Family Member and a Member-at-Large, and the Commission may be able to consider her for that seat if she is still available. Evelyn Centeno said she spoke to Supv. Glover’s office today and they told her she can move into his district.

- Consider changes to Applicant Interview Questions.
Carried over to April meeting.

- **Quality of Care Committee Report from Committee Chair Peggy Kennedy**

- Update on children placed out-of-county.

Jan Cobaleda-Kegler spoke to the Committee about children who are placed out-of-county and discussed how to work together to improve the system. Discussions will continue.

- **Capital Facilities Committee Report from Committee Chair Teresa Pasquini**
 - A recommendation was made for the MHC to conduct a site visit to CCRMC's Psychiatric Emergency, Unit 4C, and also tour the areas where the proposed ARC and CRF will be located. April 5, 10-12 for PES and 4C/12:15-1:00. 6 Commissioners may attend, with preference going to the Capital Facilities Committee.
 - Teresa made the motion and Annis seconded. Discussion: Teresa recommended that it will be an information site visit, without using formal forms. Concern was expressed that so few Commissioner can attend. If there is interest, a second site visit could be scheduled. Motion passed unanimously. Staff distributed a sign-up sheet.
 - Request that MHA and Finance provide the MHC with information about the expenses of providing out-of-county placements at all locked and unlocked facilities. (In order to assist us in the decision-making process regarding additional housing funds.) There was additional discussion in the Capital Facilities Committee, and since a Public Records Information request has been made, the committee will collaborate with MHCC in gathering this information. It was decided no action was needed at this time.
 - In accordance with the MHSA Guiding Principles developed by the Commission, the Committee requests that the MHC be kept informed [through the Capital Facilities Committee] of all housing matters discussed at CPAW and its committees and, in the interest of transparency, all stakeholders be noticed of all meetings.
 - Teresa made the motion and Evelyn seconded. Information was brought to the Feb. CPAW Housing Committee that there would be more funds available to our County in the beginning of July. MHA presented a report that new funds would be used for additional housing and supports – but additional meetings were held by sub-committees to present to CPAW but only noticed to a select number of people. Concern was expressed that without timely, update information, the Commission is basically a rubber stamp. It was also suggested that different models, such as co-housing be looked at. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1-0.
 - Accept the report of the Capital Facilities Committee on its site visit to Crestwood-Angwin, and its recommendations. Send a letter to Crestwood on MHC letterhead, signed by Carole and Teresa, detailing the Committee's findings.
 - Teresa made the motion and Annis seconded. Discussion: Several questions were raised.
 - 1) Do clients see a caseworker and how often?
 - 2) Who decides to adjust medications?
 - 3) Who decides on discharge?

It was decided to ask the Quality of Care Committee to invite someone from MHA to answer the questions. Systemic issues could be addressed by the Quality of Care Committee. It was also suggested that the Quality of Care Committee do an additional site visit. (Staff was asked to please add to QC June agenda) The report summarized there was a significant reduction in restraints, no mandated group meetings, and there were a lot of encouraging items. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1-0.
- **Criminal Justice Committee Report from Committee Chair Dave Kahler**

Dave mentioned Juliet Scott would like to be on his committee.

 - Update on AB109 Realignment
They are getting more money than expected.
 - Update on CIT Training
NAMI has only enough money for 1 more office training.
 - Recommend that the MHC conduct a site visit to the Behavioral Health Court.

- Dave made the motion and Teresa seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Staff distributed a sign-up sheet.

VI. Finalize the Wording of the “May is Mental Health Month Proclamation.”

A presentation date at the BOS of May 1st or 8th will be requested. Monique read an updated version of the Proclamation she had written.

WHEREAS, Mental Health Wellness and Recovery is a relevant social concern for millions of adults, adolescents, children and families; and

WHEREAS, recovery is possible through appropriate medical, social and culturally responsive support services; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families living with mental health concerns share with all community members a right to fair and equitable practices and community processes in the pursuit of education, housing, and employment; and

WHEREAS, all stakeholders and community members can participate in efforts to effectively address and support the delivery of culturally responsive services and supports; thereby reducing recovery times, hospitalizations, and relapses; and

WHEREAS, the commitment must begin at the local community level to increase awareness, replace misinformation, and eliminate stigma about mental illness and to promote the understanding that people with mental issues can and do lead productive and satisfying lives; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility rests with all community constituents to help ensure mental health services are available to all who need them;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors does proclaim May 2012 as “Mental Health Awareness Month” in Contra Costa County and encourages all citizens to promote the restoration of mental wellness in the community.

- Because of the looming deadline to get it to the BOS, and because no one else had submitted any suggestions, and also because what Monique had written was an excellent representation of the Commission’s position, Teresa moved that we accept Monique’s version and Annis seconded. After discussion, it was decided to name the Proclamation “May is Mental Health Awareness Month.” Monique was complimented on writing the proclamation to be strength-based and healing-based. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0-1.

VII. Removal of MHC Referrals from the BOS IOC Agenda

- Discussion regarding removal of items from the IOC agenda. Nothing had been resolved before the BOS. It was explained that Commissioners were not given information about removal of items from the IOC Agenda. The MHC plays an integral role in oversight, so surprise was expressed that no one had spoken to the MHC about the item being removed. John from Local 1 expressed concern over this non-transparent decision that was imposed on them. So far as the Local 1 evaluation issue goes, they showed up in November and spoke up about keeping the item on the agenda and thought it would be continued until the March IOC meeting. They were not consulted and did not agree with it being pulled. Place on Executive Committee Agenda.
 - Teresa moved that it go back to the Executive Committee for further discussion with those involved. No motion needed.
- Consider developing a Task Force or Committee dedicated to MHSA funding issues. Defer until after Mary’s report.

VIII. Acting Mental Health Director’s Report – Suzanne Tavano, BSN/PhD.

Suzanne was unable to attend the meeting.

- Update on filling Family Advocate Position ASAP

Mary Roy said there is a merit system process, and there has not been an exam process for this position. We can hire someone temporarily, but would not be a benefited position. There is not a current list.

IX. Behavior Health Director’s Report – Cynthia Belon, LCSW

There was no report.

X. Mental Health Services Act Report – Acting MHSA Program Manager Mary Roy, LMFT

- Update on MHSA funding
Mary discussed being inclusive. There are audits that resulted in capturing information about how much money we can project for next year. AB100 shows projected monies that come to county monthly. Last accounting showed unspent money and to plan for a 10% increased allocation. They now have been told to plan for 20% allocation.
Peggy said she’d like to have a special meeting dedicated to MHSA. It was recommended that the Commission go to the April 5th CPAW meeting and participate in a Joint meeting. The May CPAW meeting is when a draft plan needs to be able to be posted for 30 days.
 - Annis moved that the MHC have a joint meeting with CPAW at 3 p.m. April 5th about MHSA. This would model the collaboration that we’re talking about and would show the IOC that we are trying to collaborate and solve issues. Motion passed unanimously.
- CPAW Update
Mary provided reports to CPAW that had been sent to the Executive Committee. Included were recommendations from Priority Needs – all information will be gathered up and projects may be developed out of that. She will be sending out an e-mail of recommendations. She asked for ideas to be considered.

XI. MHC Representatives to Committees Reports

There were no reports

- CPAW Housing Committee – Annis Pereyra
- MHSA Social Inclusion Committee – Carole McKindley-Alvarez
- Integration Steering Committee – Carole McKindley-Alvarez

XII. The Executive Committee Recommends to the MHC that a Working Meeting be Created with Organizations Responsible for Support for Families and Consumers in Crisis in Contra Costa County.

It was suggested to include people from the hospital, the criminal justice system, CFS and others.

- Annis moved and Teresa seconded to move this to the April Executive Committee meeting for further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Announcements from Commissioners

None.

XIV. 6:30 Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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