

**Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission
9.27.2012 Minutes**

I. Call to Order / Introductions

Chairperson Carole McKindley-Alvarez called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Louis Buckingham, District III

Jerome Crichton, District III

Jack Feldman, District V

Dave Kahler, District IV

Peggy Kennedy, District II

Carole McKindley-Alvarez, District I

Karen Mitchoff, Supervisor, District IV (Arrived at 4:35; left at 6:10)

Annis Pereyra, District II

Gina Swirsding, District I

Monique Tarver, District III (arrived at 4:35)

Sam Yoshioka, District IV

Commissioners Absent:

Evelyn Centeno, District V (Leave of absence)

Colette O'Keeffe, District IV (Ill)

Teresa Pasquini, District I (Vacation)

Non-Commissioners Present:

Lia Bristol, Supv. Mitchoff's office

Brenda Crawford, Executive Director, Mental Health Consumer Concerns

Karen Shuler, MHC Executive Assistant

Jami Tussing, Office of Consumer Empowerment

(2 of Carole's students)

II. Public Comment

Brenda Crawford: Community-based Organizations access to the MHSA allocation is still unclear. Mental Health Consumer Concerns has not had a contract increase since 2008. A new contract is in the process of being drawn up, but there is no proposed increase in funding. She appealed to the Commission to find out how CBO's can access the monies.

III. Announcements

- 1) Welcome new Commissioner Jack Feldman (District V Consumer Representative)
Carole welcomed Jack to the Commission.
- 2) Commissioner Gina Swirsding is having eye surgery 9/27.
Gina's surgery was postponed until next week.
- 3) Commissioner Evelyn Centeno has requested a leave of absence.

Evelyn rescinded the resignation she gave at the August Commission meeting and asked for a leave of absence. This is her 4th absence so in accordance with the Commission Bylaws, the Chair will be in contact with her Supervisor.

- 4) Mental Health Director interviews started 9/24.
The 1st round has been completed.
- 5) Holiday MHC meeting schedule.
November meeting will be the 5th Thursday, Nov. 29th
December meeting will be the 3rd Thursday, Dec. 20th.
Note: The December meeting will be a shortened monthly MHC meeting from 3:30-4:30, followed by the Annual MHC Planning Meeting, 4:30-6:30.
- 6) Request that Committees place developing 2013 Goals on their October Agendas.
The 2013 Goals will be finalized at the December Commission Annual Planning Meeting.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from August 23, 2012

- Sam made the motion to approve the Minutes and Gina seconded. The motion to approve the Minutes as presented passed unanimously by a vote of 10-0 (Jack Feldman abstained because he was not yet a Commissioner when the meeting was held).

V. Request the Board of Supervisors to Proclaim the Week of October 7-13, 2012 “Mental Illness Awareness Week” in Contra Costa County.

Approve proposed Proclamation.

Peggy motioned and Louis seconded approving the proposed Proclamation for the BOS.

Discussion: There were objections to the word “Illness”. It was suggested it be changed to “Health”. There was also a question regarding the dates. Staff clarified the reason for the dates and name. It was also felt it should be more widely recognized throughout the County. Next year, staff will have this prepared for the August meeting. Monique suggested not only tying this in to culturally responsible events, but also to partner with communities that are doing something (NAMI has a day of prayer).

Peggy and Louis agreed to remove the original motion.

- Peggy amended her motion to Request the Board of Supervisors Proclaim the Week of October 7-13, 2012 Mental Health Awareness Week. Monique seconded.

The motion passed by a vote of 9-0-1.

Ayes: Gina, Jack, Monique, Karen, Dave, Annis, Sam, Peggy and Carole. Jerome and Louis abstained.

Carole said that there needs to be a deeper conversation, including looking at the spiritual aspects. It will be placed on the annual planning meeting agenda.

VI. 5:30 Committee Reports

A. Criminal Justice Committee

- a. Recommendation for funding of Behavioral Health Court
 - The Criminal Justice Committee recommends that the Commission write a letter to those making decisions regarding the disbursement of AB109 funds, praising the Sheriff's Department for their ongoing support and request that \$250,000 of the AB109 funds be designated for services the Sheriff's Department have provided for the Behavioral Health Court in the past.
Dave motioned and Sam seconded.
Discussion: It was recommended that the letter be sent to the CCB Commission or their subcommittee. Carole supports the BHC 100% but doesn't want a letter that would take money away from CBO's. Louis said he wanted it to cover juveniles also. Gina is for the BHC but against the required guilty plea.
Dave discussed the BHC report (copies were distributed and are available through the MHC office).
Vote: The motion passed by a vote of 8-3.
Ayes: Gina, Louis, Monique, Peggy, Sam, Annis, Dave and Karen.
Nays: Carole, Jerome and Jack.
- b. Recommendation for support of Behavioral Health Court
 - The Criminal Justice Committee recommends that the Commission show strong support for the Behavioral Health Court by advocating to the Board of Supervisors for funding for services on their behalf.
Dave moved and Jack seconded to send a letter to the BOS encouraging future support of BHC funding.
Discussion: There was confusion about how this motion differs from the one above. The first motion is for the \$250,000 to be carved out for the BHC from the money being allocated to the Sheriff's Department, and the second motion is requesting future support of funding of the BHC.
Vote: The motion passed by a vote of 9-0-2. Monique and Karen abstained.
- c. Report on effects of AB109 releases on County services.
Carole asked about the AB109 funding. Karen said there's a plan, and there's a budget. A subcommittee is working on this. There is controversy over dispersal. The county administrator has urged collaboration in coming to a decision.

B. Nominating Committee

In the absence of the Committee Chair, Carole read the report.

- a. Status of Applicants
One application has been received for District I, but there are no openings. The applicant was informed there are no current openings. The District I Supervisor was notified and agreed that MHC staff should keep the application on file in case an opening occurs.
- b. There are two openings on the Commission: Districts II and V Family Members

- c. Receive Nominations for Chair, Vice Chair and two members of the Executive Committee
Commissioners were asked to get names to the Nominating Committee

C. Executive Committee

Did not meet.

D. Quality of Care Committee

No action items were brought forward.

Peggy told about the Napa State Hospital site visit.

Sam questioned why the Commission is doing the site visit to Napa State Hospital. He expressed his opinion that it was due to the fact that a Commissioner has a family member there. He said he doubted this was our responsibility and this should be referred to whatever agency or board has responsibility over what's happening at Napa. He added that although he and Dave had attended the site visit, the site visit, they were not invited to the Committee when the report was discussed.

Peggy responded that the Q of C Committee set up the site visit and it was on their agenda, so he could have attended if he wanted to talk about it.

Secondly, although one of the Commissioners (who is not a member of the Q of C Committee) has a family member there, one of the main reasons it was discussed at the Q of C was because of last year's suicide of one of our county's consumers.

Brenda said the MHC needs to be concerned with this because CCC has consumers there and it does fall within the purview of their responsibilities. Patients' rights advocates work throughout the state wherever our people are sent. Annis added that part of our charge is to do site visits where any of our consumers are placed. The numbers of consumers being placed at Napa is climbing. They're sent to out of county placements and do not get the supportive services they need.

Sam said he was speaking to a case specific issue regarding one consumer (family member of a Commissioner). Carole said personal and other concerns can be brought to the commission – but we cannot use the Commission to get our own way. It moved from case specific to general concerns. We cannot reverse what we as a Commission approved the Q of C Committee to do. We need to use integrity as we proceed.

Annis mentioned that she would like to have the Capital Facilities site visit tool used for other site visits – like Napa.

E. Capital Facilities Committee

- a. The Capital Facilities Committee will not meet in October.
- b. Recommendations for programming at the Crisis Residential Facility

Before the motion was officially made, it was reworded to be grammatically correct.

- The Capital Facilities Committee recommends that the MHC support the educational component of dual diagnosis and that it be embedded in the CRF programming. All staff hired need to be complexity capable. An integral part of the program needs to be peer partners who can address mental health, substance abuse, homelessness and culturally responsive components.

Annis moved and Monique seconded.

Discussion: Brenda spoke of the need to explore relationships.

Concern was expressed that consumers are being ordered how to behave. Monique asked if it takes into account mental health culture, substance abuse culture and how one identifies oneself. Gina asked why we are addressing this since dual diagnosis is being used already. Annis replied that when ground was broken, Suzanne asked them to get an idea of what people thought the programming should be. Monique asked if there has been any consideration about being thoughtful about how our peers are being partnered up? Who will carry forth a voice to make sure there is inclusion? Concern was expressed that planning is not going ahead of completion. Karen said these are legitimate concerns, but the Commission will make recommendations, and when the RFP is done, they will include the type of things being mentioned – that we want this to be a part of the program.

Sam mentioned that it is very important that we have a representative from the MHA at our meeting. He pointed out that we haven't been informed about what's going on at 20 Allen. Low bid information should have come to the Commission. Fees are being paid and not being reported to MHC also.

Karen said she will send BOS minutes to staff and get an update on the status of the ARC and CRF.

Vote: The motion passed by a vote of 10-0-1 (Gina abstained)

VII. MHC Representative's Reports

- 1) MHSA Social Inclusion Committee Report – Carole McKindley-Alvarez
The meeting was cancelled. They are still working on receiving surveys back.
- 2) CPAW Housing Committee Report – Annis Pereyra
Sandy Rose is back. An overview of housing from MHSA was presented at the CPAW Housing Committee. Annis reported she visited a newly-purchased house in Antioch. The neighborhood was priced too high – designated as a woman's house in Antioch. Peggy and Carole will contact Sandy and Cynthia regarding the lease agreements. Staff will e-mail the Commission with copies of the reports Sandy Rose distributed at the Housing Committee.

- 3) Behavioral Health Integration Steering Committee – Sam Yoshioka
Everyone is invited to the October 10th Change Agent meeting. Their Mission is finalized, along with core values, which should be out soon.

VIII. Commissioner Announcements

- 1) Sam said we need to reconvene the Bylaws Task Force task force. Increasing committee membership to 5 from the current 4 is one issue. Also, we need to be working with Behavioral Health to look at issues from a behavior health perspective.
- 2) Gina wants an identified consumer on the BH Executive Team.

IX. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35.

For the Executive Committee: MHSA contracts planning process – allocation questions
Lease agreement perimeters for homes
Bylaws Task Force
Identified Consumer on BH Executive Team

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