



MINUTES
GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION JOINT MEETING
(4:45 P.M.)
AND
PUBLIC HEARING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)
(6:00 P.M.)
MAY 22, 2014

The Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission met in a Joint Meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 4:45 p.m. in the Clinical Offices located at 2008 North Garey Avenue, Suite 1B, Pomona, California, and recessed to a Public Hearing for the Mental Health Services Act at 6:00 p.m. in the Palomares Park Community Center, 499 E. Arrow Highway in Pomona, California.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Lantz called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL Roll call was taken.

GOVERNING BOARD

PRESENT: Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Chair
 Robin Carder, City of La Verne, Board Member
 Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member
 Joseph M. Lyons, MA, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Board Member
 Edina Martinez, Psy.D., City of Pomona, Board Member

ABSENT: Chuck Leeb, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Vice Chair
 John Nolte, City of Pomona, Board Member

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

PRESENT: Arny Bloom, Chair
 Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D., Vice Chair
 Betsy MacLaren, Secretary
 Cheryl Berezny
 Paul Capraro
 Ashley Nielsen
 Donald R. Perez
 Twila L. Stephens
 Toni L. Watson

ABSENT: Davetta Williams

TCMHC STAFF

PRESENT: Jesse H. Duff, Executive Director
Darold Pieper, General Counsel
Toni Navarro, LMFT, Director of Clinical Program Services
Nancy Gill, Chief Operations Officer
Elizabeth Owens, Manager of Best Practices
Rimmi Hundal, MHSA Manager
Diana Acosta, Controller
Donald Pruyn, Housing Project Manager
Mica Olmos, Executive Assistant

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2014

Chair Bloom referred to Page 3, sixth paragraph, of the Minutes and indicated that the word “wondering” should read “wandering”.

There being no further comments, Commissioner Capraro moved, and Commissioner Nielsen seconded, to approve the MHC Minutes of April 8, 2014, as amended. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners MacLaren, Nielsen, and Stephens; and Chair Bloom. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioners Berezny, Perez, and Watson; and Vice-Chair Whitlock. ABSENT: Commissioner Williams.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2014

There being no comments, Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Carder seconded, to approve the Governing Board Minutes of its Regular Meeting of April 16, 2014. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

3. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 384 ADOPTING CLASS SPECIFICATION AND SALARY RANGE FOR THE POSITION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

There being no comments, Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Martinez seconded, to approve Resolution No. 384 establishing the MHSA Program Supervisor position to the listing of General Service Employee classification. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

At the request of Executive Director Duff, Housing Project Manager Donald Pruyn provided a permanent housing update. Mr. Pruyn reported that West Holt Family Apartment project had received the land use entitlements; will submit its tax credit application in July, and if awarded, will start the construction process next spring; and that there is an 1883 house on site that either will be relocated or demolished to accommodate the project, noting that this process will not interfere with the construction. Mr. Pruyn then stated that the Cedar Springs Project continues to move forward and it is anticipated that construction will commence in January. Regarding the Park Avenue Apartments Project, Mr. Pruyn stated that it is in Tri-City's best interest financially to not invest a lot of money on the remodeling of the detached duplex units as its construction is inferior to the main house. Regarding the East Holt Family Apartments Project, Mr. Pruyn indicated that the City of Pomona held today an administrative hearing at the staff level under the new General and Corridor Specific Plans; that was approved at the Staff level; and that a required 10-day Appeal Process begins which will conclude on June 2, 2014, noting that if there is no appeal, the project can move forward and apply for MHSA financing. Lastly, Mr. Pruyn reported that Tri-City is required to solve an easement issue regarding the Garey Avenue Apartments as it relates to the Clinic, regardless if the project moves forward or not, and that Tri-City staff and the developer are considering various options to make the project compliant to the General and Specific Plan requirements.

Executive Director Duff reported that a new 3-year contract for mental health services with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health will be submitted for the approval of the Board of Supervisor on June 10th. He then provided a recruitment status report for his replacement. He also said that today he, Rimmi Hundal, and Toni Navarro attended a Veteran's graduation ceremony at CalPoly Pomona, a recipient of one of Tri-City's Wellbeing Grant, noting that during the ceremony Tri-City received a very specific recognition for the funding granted as it was key for the program's implementation. Mr. Duff then talked about the Wellness Center reciprocal parking agreement with the Church property located to the North. He explained that the property had exchanged hands, that an investor group had taken control of the property, and that on Monday they had constructed a wall denying Tri-City's access to the parking area necessary to the Wellness Center operation. He added that staff had already made arrangements for temporary parking and none of the Wellness Center's programming had been impacted. However; this matter, which came to the attention of the staff and to the Governing Board after the posting of the Agenda, had to be resolved and staff recommended to the Board to add this item to the Agenda for its authorization to pursue resolution to this matter.

Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to find subsequent to the positing of the agenda, it came to the attention of the agency that Cal-Pac Capital Investors has closed off access to the adjacent church parking lot for which Tri-City Mental Health Center holds a reciprocal parking agreement; and find that there is a need for the agency to take immediate action because Tri-City Mental Health Center requires access to its parking rights, it will be one month before the next Governing Board Meeting, and it will be necessary to institute legal action if the matter cannot be successfully resolved; and to add the matter of initiation litigation of Tri-City Mental Health Center vs. Cal-Pac Capital Investors to the Agenda. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Carder seconded, authorizing the Executive Director to engage legal counsel and initiate litigation against Cal-Pac Capital Investors to restore Tri-City Mental Health Center access to its reciprocal parking area.

Board Member Lyons inquired if staff had the understanding that the obligation, under the reciprocal parking agreement, was passed to the new property owner. Executive Director Duff stated that staff understands that it is a legal document and enforceable; however, Cal Pac does not. Mr. Duff also stated that the Pastor of the former church and the real estate agent, who sold the church property, had indicated that the investors that purchased the property were aware of the reciprocal parking agreement, noting that awareness is the key.

Board Member Lyons further inquired if the property will no longer be used as a church. Executive Director Duff replied that it was his understanding that the investor group will re-sell the property or lease it to a church. Ultimately, if they try to use the property as a church they will also need the reciprocal parking rights.

Counsel Pieper noted that the concept was not to file a lawsuit immediately, but a strong letter to follow and, if that doesn't work out, then we'll be looking for a temporary restraining order.

Board Member Lyons inquired if the wall was permanent. Executive Director Duff replied in the affirmative, noting that it was built of a wood construction.

Board Member Carder inquired about the advantage that the investors gain by building the wall. Executive Director Duff replied that they simply take control of the parking area.

Commission Vice-Chair Whitlock inquired if there were any problems relating to parking. Executive Director Duff replied in the negative, stating that the investor group's interest is financial and their tactics are very aggressive and unfriendly.

Board Member Lyons called for the question.

There being no further comments, the motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

5. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

There was no comment.

6. DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL PROGRAM SERVICES REPORT

There was no comment.

7. CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER REPORT

There was no comment.

8. MANAGER OF BEST PRACTICES REPORT

There was no comment.

9. MHSA MANAGER REPORT

There being no comments, Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Carder seconded, to receive and file the month of May staff reports. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

10. RECESS TO A PUBLIC HEARING BEING HELD AT ANOTHER VENUE

At 5:10 p.m., the Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission recessed to a *Public Hearing for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three-Year Integrated Plan and the New Innovation Plan* scheduled to be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Palomares Park Community Center, 499 E. Arrow Highway in Pomona, California.

PUBLIC HEARING

11. RECONVENE TO A PUBLIC HEARING

Commission Chair Bloom, and Governing Board Chair Lantz, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., and asked the Executive Assistant to conduct a visual roll call. A visual roll call was taken by Executive Assistant Olmos.

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

PRESENT: Arny Bloom, Chair
Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D., Vice Chair
Betsy MacLaren, Secretary
Cheryl Berezny
Paul Capraro
Donald R. Perez
Twila L. Stephens
Toni L. Watson
Davetta Williams

ABSENT: Ashley Nielsen

GOVERNING BOARD

PRESENT: Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Chair
Robin Carder, City of La Verne, Board Member
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member
Joseph M. Lyons, MA, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Board Member
Edina Martinez, Psy.D., City of Pomona, Board Member

ABSENT: Chuck Leeb, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Vice Chair
John Nolte, City of Pomona, Board Member

A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Commission Chair Bloom welcomed all attendees and explained that under state law, the public hearing occurs as part of a regular Mental Health Commission meeting; that it is an advisory and oversight body to Tri-City Mental Health Center; and that it meets monthly to help advise the Governing Board, staff, and stakeholders of Tri-City Mental Health Center about how to insure high quality mental health services in our area.

B. FOCUS FOR THE EVENING

Commissioner Chair Bloom explained that the public hearing is being conducted for the proposed Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three-Year Integrated Plan and the New Innovation Plan for the Tri-City area. He noted that the proposed plans have emerged from almost a year of extensive work and conversations with individuals and organizations throughout the three cities; and that the public feedback was also necessary.

12. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION - OPEN PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) THREE-YEAR INTEGRATED PLAN AND THE NEW INNOVATION PLAN.

Mental Health Commission Chair Bloom introduced MHSA consultant John Ott, and stated that he and Rose Pinard, and their colleagues Elizabeth Sadlon and Kim Tso, had helped develop the MHSA Plans. He then opened the Public Hearing for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three-Year Integrated Plan and the New Innovation Plan, noting that it would be facilitated by Mr. Ott.

A. EXPLANATION OF PUBLIC HEARING AND CONTEXT OF PLANS

MHSA Consultant Ott explained that during the Public Hearing there would be an overview of the MSHA Three-Year Plan and the New Innovation Plan, program presentations, recommendations, table discussions, large group discussion, and formal action. Mr. Ott then talked about the Mental Health Services Act Plan which is made up of 5 parts into a whole that include the Community Services and Supports (CSS); Prevention and Early Intervention Services (PEI); Innovation; Workforce, Education and Training (WET); and Capital Facilities & Technology Infrastructure. Mr. Ott also talked about Tri-City's reorganization that took place back in 1997; the planning and implementation for each plan when it took place during the last seven years; the emerging system of care; the Three-Year Plan workgroup process; and the stakeholder recommendations to continue all current programs at the projected three-year budget levels and an array of recommendations for staff to improve the impact of programs and the overall system of care. Mr. Ott then stated that Tri-City staff members were going to share with the public some of their client's story of impact under Tri-City's integrated system of care.

Toshi Kuramtsu, Adult Program Manager, talked about two success stories of Tri-City clients that participated in the FSP program.

Gamaliel Polanco, MHSA Program Coordinator, shared a successful intervention of an 8-year old at a local school.

Dana Stein, MHSA Program Coordinator, talked about two clients and the manner in which their lives improved after receiving assistance from Tri-City's Community Navigators and the Therapeutic Community Garden.

Gibran Carter, WET Program Coordinator, talked about the impact that Tri-City's services and staff had on one of its volunteers.

A 10-minute video, student produced at the University of La Verne, about Tri-City Mental Health Center services was presented.

At 6:50 p.m. the Public Hearing recessed and reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

MHSA Consultant Ott announced that Tri-City staff would present the three project proposals which are the Cognitive Remediation Therapy, Employment Stability, and Alliance for Building Communities under the New Innovation Plan.

Toni Navarro, Director of Clinical Program Services, presented an overview of the Cognitive Remediation Therapy which will address the cognitive disabilities from a person suffering psychosis, and other persistent mental illnesses, with a new MHS practice called Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Force Psychosis, specific curriculum based program which addresses the symptoms.

Rimmi Hundal, MHSA Manager, presented an overview of the Employment Stability Program, which was modeled after the landlords project, where the employment outreach specialist at the Wellness Center is going to be developing relationships with potential employers in the community and educating them on how to work with the mentally ill, how to employ them, and how to create a working environment for them. Also, the plan will include educating the participants in the program on how to become good employees, how to do a job interview, how to keep a job by learning the job etiquette, and encouraging everybody to take mental health first aid classes.

Gilbert Saldade, Public Outreach and Housing Manager, provided an overview of the Alliance for Building Communities Program which is about developing community organization leadership, and the capacities of the communities themselves, to reduce stigma. He indicated the program is for 2 years, the first year will focus on training 25-30 individuals, and the second year will focus on training the trainer for sustainability and continuing building the capacity of our communities to promote wellness in the three cities.

B. SMALL TABLE DISCUSSIONS

MHSA Consultant Ott then talked about the stakeholders recommendations to continue all current programs, as projected three-year budget levels, plus the New Innovation Plan that includes the three project proposals as presented. He asked the public to reflect on what they had heard; to indicate what they liked about the 3-Year Plan and the New Innovation Plan; and to ask questions, voice any concerns, or to provide feedback.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Governing Board Member Lyons talked about the importance of the scallop principal, noting that the New Innovation Plan was the next logical step in the system of care; that the employment piece is key to have a meaningful life since it gives someone a purpose in life; and reminded staff to engage the Chambers of Commerce and City Councils in the employment stability project in order to create a supportive community.

A member of the public expressed support for the three proposed projects under the New Innovation Plan, noting that the outreach and awareness in the community is important to reduce stigma; and that focus programming where Latinos have a niche is also important in order to meet their specific needs.

Commissioner Whitlock inquired if Tri-City will be liable for persons employed under the Employment Stability Program. MHSA Manager Hundal replied in the negative, and explained that Tri-City will not employ people under the program; rather, it will provide the tools to persons to become employed.

Additional members of the public expressed what they liked about the proposed MSHA Three-Year Integrated Plan with the following comments: "glad to see that the employment component is getting attention; learning a lot through this process, very supportive; attention to cultural competency; support how CRT will combine the two treatments; grateful and pleased with Wellness Center, particularly because it provides a place to have fun, the outings, and the recreational programs; the way in which programs are all linked together so seamlessly; and that the community participates in the planning process."

The following are questions or concerns that were made about the proposed MSHA Three-year Integrated Plan: more Spanish-speaking programs are needed; will there be a separation by diagnoses in CRT; concern about the scallop principal because certain groups feel excluded and suggested having CET more accessible to bipolar clients; and kids are suffering, there should be more programs focusing on them.

The following were additional comments members of the public shared: Tri-City has been my stability and I am very happy, grateful, and blessed by God for all your help, and I hope you can keep doing this work and help more people because many people need it; the reviews of the programs were excellent and had a workable format; would be great to integrate Alliance with the Employment Stability Program; look forward to next year; wellness center has been a place to take my family where they can feel normal and be treated equally; the wellness center provided me a place to do homework and research for school; how can I receive information for employment?; could not hear speakers in back half of the room; keep up the good work; and prioritize the communities to be served and helped, such as schools, colleges, churches and worship communities.

13. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION - CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING

There being no further discussion Commissioner Watson moved, and Commissioner Berezny seconded, to close the Public Hearing. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Capraro, MacLaren, Perez, Stephens, Watson, and Williams; Vice Chair Whitlock; and Chair Bloom. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Nielsen.

14. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION – DECIDE ON A RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BOARD ABOUT THE MHSA THREE-YEAR INTEGRATED PLAN

There being no discussion, Commissioner Watson moved, and Commissioner Stephens seconded, to recommend the approval of the MHSA 3-Year Integrated Plan by the Governing Board. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Capraro, MacLaren, Perez, Stephens, Watson, and Williams; Vice Chair Whitlock; and Chair Bloom. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Nielsen.

15. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION - DECIDE ON A RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BOARD ABOUT THE NEW INNOVATION PLAN

There being no discussion, Vice-Chair Whitlock moved, and Commissioner Perez seconded, to recommend the approval of the New Innovations Plan by the Governing Board. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Capraro, MacLaren, Perez, Stephens, Watson, and Williams; Vice Chair Whitlock; and Chair Bloom. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Nielsen.

16. GOVERNING BOARD - APPROVAL OF THE MHSA 3-YEAR INTEGRATE PLAN

Governing Board Chair Lantz, on behalf of the Governing Board, thanked the public for their attendance and for their participation in the Public Hearing. She stated that it had been a remarkable process to arrive at this point and everyone's participation was greatly appreciated.

There being no further comment, Board Member Carder moved, and Board Member Martinez seconded, to approve and adopt the MHSA 3-Year Integrated Plan. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

17. GOVERNING BOARD - APPROVAL OF THE NEW INNOVATION PLAN

There being no further comment, Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to approve and adopt the New Innovations Plan and recommend it to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC). The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS

There was no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no comment.

MHSA Consultant Ott discussed the next steps which include the continued implementation of all current programs; the MHSOAC review and approval the New Innovation Plan, and if approved, the new projects under this plan will begin on July 2014. Mr. Ott then said farewell to Tri-City, stating that it had been an honor for him, and his partner Rose Pinard, to witness the birthing of Tri-City's system of care and the passion of the people committed to this mental health movement.

The Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission thanked John Ott for all his contributions and services provided to Tri-City.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 p.m., there being no further discussion, Board Member Martinez moved, and Board Member Carder seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

At 8:09 p.m., there being no further discussion, Commissioner Stephens moved, and Commissioner Watson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Capraro, MacLaren, Perez, Stephens, Watson, and Williams; Vice Chair Whitlock; and Chair Bloom. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Nielsen.

The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2014, in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard #B, Claremont, California.

The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2014 at 4:45 p.m., in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard #B, Claremont, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, Executive Assistant