



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
JULY 12, 2016 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL A visual roll call was taken.

PRESENT: Toni L. Watson, Chair
Donald R. Perez, Vice-Chair
Cheryl Berezny
Arny Bloom
Michael Olivieri (arrived at 3:33 p.m.)
Twila L. Stephens (arrived at 3:38 p.m.)
Davetta Williams

ABSENT: Chuck Leeb, Ph.D.

STAFF: Toni Navarro, Executive Director
Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services
Donald Pruyn, Housing Project Manager
Gibran Carter, Workforce Education & Training (WET) Coordinator
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 14, 2016 MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

There being no comment, Commissioner Berezny moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Mental Health Commission Meeting of June 14, 2016. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, and Williams; Vice-Chair Perez; and Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Olivieri, Leeb, and Stephens.

II. PRESENTATION

Executive Director Navarro stated that Gibran Carter, Workforce Education & Training (WET) Coordinator, who oversees the W.I.S.H. Program, named and developed the program from a concept idea of former Executive Director Jesse Duff during Fiscal Year 2012-13, indicating that it is one of the most inspiring and motivating programs offered at Tri-City for both clients and staff members.

At 3:33 p.m. Commissioner Michael Olivieri arrived at the meeting.

WET Coordinator Carter stated that, with the assistance of Executive Director Toni Navarro and Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Rimmi Hundal, he developed the curriculum for the W.I.S.H. program, noting that it is the acronym for **W**orking, **I**ndependence, **S**kills, and **H**elp. He indicated the program started in 2014 and explained the recruitment process which involves the clinical staff identifying and recommending clients who are ready to volunteer on a limited level as greeters in the lobby rooms; that the program consists of 8 weeks of training, only two hours per week; that clients are trained in communication skills, boundaries/personal space, protocols at Tri-City, acceptable behavior at work vs. at home; and that the training concludes with a Graduation Ceremony; noting that there have been 21 graduates and over 330 volunteer hours of lobby greeters since 2014.

At 3:38 p.m. Commissioner Twila Stephens arrived at the meeting.

Executive Director Navarro clarified that the volunteers under the WISH program have less requirements and their training is limited to communication skills and workforce interactions compared to Tri-City's professional volunteer program which has an intense training and background check conducted similar to Tri-City' employees.

Crystal Pickwick shared her personal story of recovery and her positive experience as member of the WISH Program.

Discussion ensued regarding how volunteers use their training to become door greeters.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Navarro provided a staff report and indicated that last year staff focused on integrating programming, how staff members work together, and how staff members can support one another; and that this year staff will focus on Pat Summit's quote: responsibility = accountability = ownership, which will allow employees to share their ideas about how to be more effective in Tri-City's programming, noting that ownership is the most important 'resource' of Tri-City. She explained that 'resource' is a catch word from trauma and reform care which refers to the internal positive aspect of oneself that provides comfort and inspiration to determine how the individual fits into the larger system of care enabling him/her to contribute to the overall success of Tri-City. She then thanked the Commission for its commitment to the Agency and distributed a newspaper article regarding Memorial Day wherein Commissioner Don Perez was featured and described his accomplishments as a veteran; she also thanked those Commission Members who wrote letters to local legislators regarding 'No Place Like Home'; announced the upcoming staff Compassion Fatigue training; reported that Congresswoman Norma Torres visited Tri-City and was pleased to see what Tri-City was doing; reported that Assembly Member Chris Holden will be visiting Tri-City in September and that she attended a meet-and-greet with State Senator Connie Leyva in Rialto who will be also visiting Tri-City in September; announced newly adopted legislation regarding gun control allowing Licensed Mental Health professionals to petition the local police department to obtain a court order for the removal of firearms from the home of clients who have been hospitalized, owned weapons, and there was a concern for their safety; announced that there will be another stakeholder meeting regarding the proposed expansion of FSP programming and addressed questions raised by Commissioners during the first Stakeholder meeting held last Wednesday; and indicated that in next Fiscal Year 2017-18 there will be reduction of MHSA funding as result of "No Place Like Home" due to the 7% reduction of the MHSA base allocation.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed FSP expansion, MHSA funding allocations and revenues.

Don Pruyn, Housing Project Manager, announced that the Cedar Springs project has not yet received its Certificate of Occupancy; that the Tri-City units at Parkside Family Apartments have been filled; that the Holt Family Apartment Project by Clifford Beers Housing is under construction and its anticipated opening is in March 2017; that two single moms were identified to reside at the Claremont site, however, one rejected the housing due to having to share the kitchen and living room areas, and a new lottery will be conducted to find a second tenant; that the Veterans' vouchers for the City of Claremont Veterans Housing Project were denied because the property site is within 500 feet to the 210 freeway; and that the developer is currently exploring mitigating measures because, if they cannot develop the project, the City of Claremont will look for another site.

Discussion ensued how the 500 feet rule affects the proposed Claremont Veterans' Housing Project.

Housing Project Manager Pruyn continued with his housing report and indicated that staff is in the process of developing the legal property descriptions to purchase the property adjacent to the Clinic property in Pomona. Executive Director Navarro added that once the purchase is finalized, staff will be able to begin the Parking lot expansion and the TCG garden according to the MHSA Annual Update.

COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Perez reported that he attended the Stakeholders meeting regarding the FSP program expansion, noting that the proposed expansion is excellent and thanked staff for answering the questions he had in connection with the funding for the program.

Executive Director Navarro reported that she had reached out to the three Police Departments to thank them for their support of Tri-City as they have provided excellent care and leadership; notably the Pomona Police Department because they are busier and Tri-City works with them on a regular basis, noting that its officers are experts in community policing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:20 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its meeting of July 12, 2016 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on **Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at 3:30 p.m.** in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard #B, Claremont, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk