



**SOLANO COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes for Meeting of**  
**March 21, 2017 - 4:30PM-6:00PM**  
**2101 Courage Drive, Fairfield CA 94533**

**General Meeting**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Heather Theaux-Venezio called the regular meeting of the Solano County Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) to order at 4:37pm. Roll call confirmed a quorum.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Melanie Norris, Michael Wright, John Mackenzie, Esmeralda Liberato, Joyce Papetti Thompson, Tiffany Banks, Monica Brown, Mark Headrick, Heather Theaux Venezio, and Lis dela Torre.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lori Espinosa

**II. CONSENT CALENDAR**

On motion of Monica Brown, seconded by John Mackenzie, the MHAB approved the March 21, 2017, agenda with the following additions:

III b. Solano County Behavioral Health Support Groups

III c. NAMI

IV 8. Annual Report

IV 9. New Ad Hoc Committee

Meeting minutes were approved by unanimous vote. Lis dela Torre arrived late and was not present for the vote.

On motion of Melanie Norris, seconded by Tiffany Banks, the MHAB approved the meeting minutes of the February 21, 2017, MHAB meeting. The agenda was approved by unanimous vote. Lis dela Torre arrived late and was not present for the vote.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- a) Lorena Perswain, Solano County Behavior Health Family Liaison, introduced herself and provided flyers and brochures about the Solano County Behavioral Health Family Support Groups.
- b) National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) - Received a presentation about the NAMI Walk from Yolanda Garcia-Martinez. Ms. Garcia-Martinez provided the NAMI newsletter, flyers, and brochures.

**IV. DIRECTOR/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS**

- 1) Behavioral Health Program:
  - a. Quality Improvement-Sandra Sinz

- i. Psychiatry: Solano County is still having issues with psychiatry recruitment. The field of psychiatry has become very small in terms of practicing psychiatrists. Currently, with our temporary Locum Tenens and our contract doctors, Solano County Mental Health is fully staffed. Now we can shift our focus to recruiting long term employees for these positions.
- ii. Budget requests for next year: We have been given directions to submit our budget as if nothing will be changing but to be conservative. At the same time we have increased mandates, so we will be requesting additional positions. One of the positions is for oversight of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) Treatment Family Care program and another position for a planning analyst. Also, we are hoping for a position to oversee some other grants.

Questions and comments from the Board include:

- a) In terms of oversight, the way that things are now families in this community that are considered therapeutic foster homes are not getting the support they need from agencies in Solano County. They are not getting the support they need to take care of high-risk foster youth. *Currently, with the Intensive Foster Care Treatment Placement those youth are under child welfare. What is going to happen with CCR is there is going to be a shift of responsibility and these youth will be under mental health instead of child welfare. Some changes are being implemented now and some won't be implemented until July.*
  - b) We are taking on a lot of kids that are from other counties. *Another phase of CCR is something called presumptive eligibility. The county that the child is placed in becomes responsible for their care.*
  - c) What is CCR? *Continuum of Care Reform*
  - d) What happens with difficult to place kids when the foster families burn out? Certain group homes will stay open and they will be relicensed as short-term crisis treatment homes. The child would only stay there up to 6 months. *Solano County has 40-50 kids in group homes at any given time and the estimate is 30 or so, under the new criteria, could move back to the foster home with the right supports in place.*
  - e) Any time a child is taken from their parent, no matter how good or bad that child is, they are going to be traumatized. When a child is taken from their parents. within 24 or 48 hours the child has to be seen by a doctor and a dentist. But they are not necessarily being seen by a social worker for their psychological state. It may be assumed that because the child is a good kid, gets straight A's, etc., that they are not high risk and that they are okay. This is not always true. Anytime a child is taken from their parent they need to be accessed by a social worker in the same time frame. *Our child welfare workers are trained to screen kids and the screening tools they use are used on all kids*
  - f) I would like to see Child Welfare come give a presentation. *Yes, that is a good idea. We can do that.*
- iii. Data book – After reviewing the Data Book we saw that we should be reviewing what the charge of the Board is and what the activities of the Board are. I have a feeling that the report that is going to be submitted does not necessarily reflect what the Board is expected to do.

Question and comments from the Board include.

- a) For example we are supposed to review the budget and we haven't seen a single budget. What Sandra is saying, and if we all agree, we need to review what our state mandate is and then make our agenda appropriate and work as a group.
- b) That is one of my goals. We need to review what our rules and responsibilities are. It's in the Annual Report what we are supposed to be doing and you can see what we haven't been doing. I want to design the agenda to address these things. *WIC code 5604.2 states the expected activities of the Board.*

- c) Can you explain a little more about the Data Book? *A lot of the Data Book is saying is here is the utilization in this area. Here is how you are doing with this service in this area and then it asks you to respond or react to what the data is. A lot of it presupposes an understanding of certain elements of the system and I think that detail of understanding has not been an historical part of this conversation. I think this is a good time to look at this differently. It's my responsibility to ensure that the MHAB is appropriately active and it's the Board's responsibility to set the expectations and ask the department for what you need to appropriately weigh in on service delivery.*
      - d) Once the Data Book is done does that come to us so that we can understand where we are? *We will deliver it around March 28.*
    - iv. In regard to Denise Coleman's membership to the MHAB, there is in the code an item that would allow Denise to be on the Board.  
WIC 5604.(a)(2) A consumer of mental health services who has obtained employment with an employer described in paragraph (1) and who holds a position in which he or she does not have any interest, influence, or authority over any financial or contractual matter concerning the employer may be appointed to the board. The member shall abstain from voting on any financial or contractual issue concerning his or her employer that may come before the board.  
(e) Members of the board shall abstain from voting on any issue in which the member has a financial interest as defined in Section 87103 of the Government Code.
    - v. MHSA-SIBHS has historically had contracts to provide mental health board trainings. The County, also, provides training for advisory boards.
  - b. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)-Sandra Sinz
    - i. There is an RFP coming out to develop the Mobile Crisis Program that is written into the MHSA Plan.  
Questions and comments from the Board include:
      - a) Going forward I would like this to be a regular agenda item. Updates about the 5150 process, the RFP, and what's happening on your end.
      - b) I would like to know how it's working, who's using it, and what areas are getting the most use. Reporting what's working and what's not working. *We can certainly have some dialogue about it.*
      - c) At some point we can invite all the partners to come and speak at a meeting.
- 2) Executive Committee Report-Heather Theaux-Venezio
  - a. It is my goal to try to rework the agenda to speak more to what our responsibilities are as a board.
- 3) Outreach Committee Report – Joyce Papetti-Thompson
  - a. Angela has been working on setting up the time for the framing party for May is Mental Health Month. Unfortunately, I will be out all of May due to my health. I'm asking if someone can pick up the ball. The framing party will be April 28<sup>th</sup>, 12-5pm, in the multipurpose room. We need volunteers to help frame the paintings.
  - b. The outreach committee would like to display the art work at the County Building. Monica Brown reported that this is a process and she will report back to the group as soon as she knows if this venue is going to be available.
  - c. Ms. Papetti-Thompson is planning a Meet & Greet. Monica Brown will see if the space is available for one of the following dates. – May 9, 10 or 11, 12-2pm. The Art Gallery in Vacaville will provide cookies and coffee for the Meet & Greet.
- 4) Membership Committee Report – Tiffany Banks
  - a. There are no new applicants this month. Officer Scott Washington is still interested, but is not here because he was called in to work tonight. He just needs to attend one more meeting.
- 5) Suicide Prevention Committee Liaison Report – Sandra Sinz

- a. The Suicide Prevention forum was last week to launch the strategic plan into the community. It was quite successful in terms of participation.
- 6) Alcohol & Drug Advisory Board Liaison Report – No Report
- 7) May is Mental Health Month 2017 – Ad Hoc Committee
  - a. Approve flyers to go out to the public:
 

The Board agreed that the content of the flyer going out to the public is good, but changes need to be made to the format. Melanie Norris volunteered to make the changes. John Mackenzie motioned to approve the content and format changes, seconded by Monica Brown. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.
  - b. Approve flyers to go out to the artists:
    - i. John Mackenzie motioned to amend his previous motion to include the flyer going out to the artists, seconded by Monica Brown. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.
  - c. Framing party multipurpose room reservation date:
    - i. April 28, 2017, 12-5pm
  - d. Board resolution
    - i. May is Mental Health Month Board Resolution – May 2, 2017, at 9:00am. Monica Brown will create the board resolution and send it to Heather Theaux-Venezio. Board members will be present for the Board resolution. The Chair will receive the resolution and then it will be displayed with May is Mental Health Month art work.
    - ii. Michael Wright would like to show Dr. Seeger’s DVD, Shattered Families at the Board of Supervisors meeting in May. The DVD was presented to the Board last month by the public. Dr. Seeger is willing to come and speak or answer questions. The Board discussed the benefits of showing the DVD in the evening instead. Mr. Wright will contact Dr. Seeger in regards to his availability one evening in May. A flyer would be created to advertise the event. The event is a call to action and that should be included on the flyer. Michael Wright motioned to start “A Call to Action” Shattered Families meeting with Dr. Steven Seeger, seconded by Esmeralda Liberato. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.
- 8) Receive MHAB Annual Report:
 

Angela Faulkner provided the Board with the 2016 MHAB Annual Report draft via email. Monica Brown moved to receive the MHAB Annual Report draft, seconded by Melanie Norris. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

John Mackenzie made a motion to review what we have received and add it to the agenda next month, seconded by Melanie Norris. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.
- 9) Vote on MOU Ad Hoc Committee:
 

John Mackenzie would like to develop a MOU for the County that involves private hospitals, law enforcement, EMS, and it basically surrounds how we deliver acute crisis psychiatric services. It, also, would include the Mobile Assessment Team. The reason why I think an MOU Ad Hoc Committee is so important is because there are so many facets to the 5150 process and the Mobile Assessment Team. Mr. Mackenzie would like this Ad Hoc Committee to be part of the MHAB agenda for monthly reporting. The Board discussed the benefits of this ad hoc committee and renaming it.

John Mackenzie motioned to create a Mental Health Crisis Ad Hoc Committee, seconded by Joyce Papetti-Thompson. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

## V. SCHEDULED CALENDAR (Action Items)

- 1) Old Business- none
- 2) New Business
  - a. Design 2017 agenda (define what presentations and/or activities the Board wants for 2017)
    - i. Heather Theaux-Venezio will meet with Penny Barnes and Sandra Sinz to create agenda.

**VI. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC :**

The board received comments from Gene Korte

**VII. BOARD COMMENTS:**

**Melanie Norris** – We have had an awesome meeting. It has been very productive.

**John Mackenzie** – I will be working with Caring 4 Vets as a volunteer. They are privately funded. They have a design for veteran villages and they are currently looking for space. They would like to use shipping containers to create small homes. If the Board is interested I will give a presentation.

**Michael Wright** – I would like to see this meeting extended to 2 hours.

**Esmeralda Liberato** – I would like to thank the public for attending the MHAB meeting.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT : 6:30pm**