

Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board

Board Meeting

January 13, 2011

I. Call to Order

Chair Gary Nowak called the meeting to order in the Board Room at 3:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Present: Maggie Clay, Virginia DeRosia, Alan Fischer, Judy Hutchins, Marie LaLonde, Gary Nowak, Patricia Przeslawski, Tom Young

Absent: Richard Anderson, Linda Canfield (excused), Terry Larson (excused), Tom Mullaney (excused)

Staff & Guests: Lisa Anderson, Roger Boston, Carolyn Bruning, Lee Ann Bushey, Lynne Fredlund, Tim Gray, Ruth Hewett, Loretta Howard, Cheryl Jaworowski, Ed LaFramboise, Kim Lancaster, Cathy Meske, Charles Terry, Tony White, Dick Wiitala

III. Information and/or Comments from the Public

There were no comments presented.

IV. Educational Session – Consumer Advisory Council

Roger Boston, Consumer Advisory Council member, provided the Board with information related to the Consumer Advisory Council. He explained the Council wanted to let the Board know what it does for the Agency. He reported he attends Council and the Northern Affiliation's Partners in Care Committee (PICC) meetings to learn about the programs offered by the Agency so he can be a good advocate for mental health. He reported the Council has created a brochure related to Natural Supports. They have represented Northeast in the Walk-A-Mile-In-My Shoes rally in Lansing each year. They participated in the "Faces of Recovery" project designed to reduce stigma. They participated in the Application for Renewal and Recommitment (ARR) both locally and at the Affiliation level. They also provide input for policy development and review policies. He noted the Council is here to help the Board and welcomes any projects the Board would like them to take on.

Tim Gray spoke related to acceptance and recovery. He noted Peer Support Specialists are trained to help consumers progress in their stages of recovery. He reported that he always focused on acceptance figuring that was the last stage; however, in reviewing training models, acceptance is actually gained prior to full recovery. He reported he has worked in NAMI by providing "In Our Own Voice" presentations.

Richard Anderson arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Tim Gray reported his involvement in the Consumer Advisory Council has provided him with energy to help others dealing with mental illness. Tim provided Board members with some information related to his personal experience in an inpatient unit. He reported the suggestion to join the council several years ago he strongly resisted. Since joining the council, he believes he has made great strides in his recovery, for example, being able to speak at a meeting like this board meeting.

Roger Boston summarized saying they are here today so the Board is aware of the opportunities the Council can provide to the Board when consumer input and suggestions are needed.

Alan Fischer addressed the Council's purpose as described in the Consumer Advisory Council's bylaws. He reported the Director attends all meetings and is receptive to listening to all the concerns of the consumers. He reported the Council would like to strengthen its purpose to focus on fulfilling its purpose rather than just working to reduce stigma. He stated the Council has

recently changed their meeting times to meet the Monday before the Board meeting to have a closer connection with the Board. He noted the membership has changed recently and there is now more representation from the developmental disabilities services side. He informed Board members the recruitment efforts are made to get consumers or consumer family members that want to give back and become more involved in advocacy. He notes the Board Chair, Gary Nowak, has also attended the last several meetings facilitating better interaction.

Alan Fischer noted that recently the educational sessions presented to the Council are also being presented to the Board.

V. Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of Minutes**
- 2. Contracts**
 - a. Blue Horizons Management Agreement**

Moved by Richard Anderson, supported by Judy Hutchins, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

VI. January Monitoring Reports

1. Budgeting 01-004

Cheryl Jaworowski reviewed the Revenue and Expense report with the Board. She reported the November and December reports will be available at the next meeting.

Moved by Tom Young, supported by Richard Anderson, to accept the Budgeting 01-004 monitoring report, as presented. Motion carried.

2. Emergency Executive Succession 01-006

Tony White reported this has not changed since last report; Ed LaFramboise, Director of Developmental Disabilities Services, would assume responsibility in the event the Director is unable.

Moved by Marie LaLonde, supported by Richard Anderson, to accept the Emergency Executive Succession 01-006 monitoring report, as presented. Motion carried.

VII. Board Policy Review and Self Evaluation

1. Emergency Executive Succession 01-006

Board members reviewed the policy and no changes were recommended. Pat Przeslawski noted the policy looked good.

2. Chief Executive Role 03-001

Judy Hutchins noted this policy is clear; no changes were recommended.

VIII. Linkage Reports

1. Northern Affiliation

a. Comprehensive Provider Update

Tony White reported the Comprehensive Provider Update is prepared by the Affiliation for the boards and staff of the member CMHSPs (Northeast, AuSable Valley and North Country). This report provides information about the accomplishments made and status of goals established. Mr. White noted the Electronic Medical Record is one area that is being focused upon; staff from each of the Boards are involved in the process of development of common practices for his project.

b. December Affiliation Board Minutes

The minutes from the December Affiliation Board meeting were included in the mailing. Mr. White noted a report on these minutes was provided at the December Board meeting.

2. MACMHB

a. CMH PAC Campaign

Gary Nowak reported the Association's CMH PAC campaign is conducted annually. In the past, the recommended donation for Board members was that equal to one per diem. Tony White reported the Board Association has tailored the campaign differently this year. They are attempting to increase the number of participants within the state's community mental health agencies. He reported the new methodology will use the number of contributors to determine the level achieved in the campaign. Last year 16 members from Northeast made donations for a total contribution of \$1,145. If last year's numbers were used, Northeast would have achieved the highest level, Platinum, as we exceeded the 100% contribution ratio.

b. Regional Board Member Forums Announcement

Gary Nowak reported the Board Association has identified the dates for the Regional Board Member Forum as September 9 & 10. Gary Nowak reported Tom Mullaney, Alan Fischer and he attended last year and the information presented was outstanding. He requested Board members to save the date if possible and plan to attend.

3. Consumer Advisory Council

The minutes of the December meeting were included in the mailing.

IX. Chair's Report

A. Winter Conference

Gary Nowak reported the Winter Conference is being held in February. Early Bird deadline is January 28 so Board members should decide by that date. Tony White reported this is the "optional" conference; however, this is also an opportunity to meet with the new legislators. Tom Young indicated there were several workshops that he would be interested in attending. Pat Przeslawski suggested this conference also be authorized for those wishing to attend as the budget situation this year is somewhat better.

Moved by Pat Przeslawski, supported by Marie LaLonde, to authorize Board members to attend the Winter Conference and be reimbursed for expenses. Roll call vote: Ayes:

Richard Anderson, Maggie Clay, Virginia DeRosia, Alan Fischer, Judy Hutchins, Marie LaLonde, Gary Nowak, Pat Przeslawski, Tom Young; Nays: None; Absent: Linda Canfield, Terry Larson, Tom Mullaney

X. Director's Report

A. Budget Update

Tony White reported, at this point, nothing is clear as to what next year's budget will bring. Meetings are ongoing in Lansing between DCH and the PIHPs to determine how cuts would be spread during the next fiscal year. He reported Alexis Kaczynski is participating in these meetings and will let us know what we can expect when she gets that information. He reported with stimulus dollars gone, it is anticipated major cuts will be necessary.

Maggie Clay noted a prevention focus needs to be maintained and the recent events in Phoenix only make that more evident. She notes the reaction of people toward what the young man has done contributes to the perception that there is a breakdown in mental health services. She notes the public and other agencies need to recognize how important it is to reach those who are in need of services.

Richard Anderson inquired as to our relationships with law enforcement, schools and other agencies in the area to handle consumers such as this. Tony White noted we are regularly in the jails to provide services and with the system of care being developed for children, our relationships with the school systems are getting stronger. Cathy Meske reported there are regular meetings held with the groups involved in the system of care that identify needs of families and we are able to work with the whole family, not just the child. She did note that unfortunately in budget cuts, prevention is usually the first service cut.

Tony White reported that in Michigan, forcing someone into treatment requires criteria to be met as established in the Mental Health Code. Cathy Meske provided the Board with more detail related to those criteria. She noted that of approximately 1,200 consumers served by this agency in the MI Division, there are only about 24 on alternative treatment orders.

Alan Fischer reported there are many consumers that are mentally ill but are not yet seriously mentally ill to qualify for services here.

Judy Hutchins reported the Drop-In Center's mission is to work with people with mental illness and to provide them a place to come to socialize and break out of the isolation that so often accompanies mental illness. She noted yesterday a recent widow attended and she says she will be back. Until then, she had not left the house and had isolated herself. She reports there are 23 members as of now.

Pat Przeslawski reported the news reports related to the Arizona incident was quite offensive by using terms such as "nuts" in their descriptions of the perpetrator. She reported as a mental health board, we should be challenging them on their depiction of the event. She notes this is where having a PR person would be an asset.

She requested consideration of a PR function be included on a future agenda. Gary Nowak said the Affiliation might be able to assist in shared resources. She requested the Board spend time in a future meeting, instead of an educational session, and brainstorm how to appropriately address events such as these.

Gary Nowak charged Tony White with the task of coming back to the Board with some information related to PR possibilities.

B. Electronic Board Packet Update

Tony White updated the Board with some information collected related to the potential of delivering board packets electronically versus mailed paper packets. For those members needing equipment, laptops could be provided at a cost to the agency of approximately \$1,100. He noted for those members that would prefer to use their own equipment that cost could be avoided. Tom Young reported he is on a Board that is trying to do that; if the packets are small (i.e., 20 pages) it works well enough, but when the packets are larger, internet speeds and other technical factors can make that difficult. Richard Anderson suggested maybe just the wi-fi being available for those wanting to access via that method. Dick Wiitala reported the Board Room could be wired to provide that capacity.

Moved by Pat Przeslawski, supported by Richard Anderson, to outfit the Board Room with wi-fi capabilities. Motion carried.

Dick Wiitala reported that it would take at least until March to get that in place.

C. Hillman Office Update

Tony White reported that with the former Thunder Bay Health Center building now off the market, our plan is to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) by the end of this month allowing potential builders 45 days to submit bids. General specifications will be included in the RFP related to the number of offices needed, approximate size of the offices, etc. This would allow bidders to propose either renovations to an existing property or new construction. This would

allow a decision to be made the end of March. Gary Nowak suggested the Board consider buying versus leasing.

XI. Contract Agreement – 23rd Circuit/81st District Courts – Alcona County

Tony White reviewed the proposed contract with the Board. He reported the court has received a grant and has requested our agency provide services for those consumers that do not have Medicaid; this contract would cover our costs. Cathy Meske reported these consumers would be dually diagnosed as well as Court involvement. The consumers are evaluated by Catholic Human Services and would be referred to this agency for group therapy.

Moved by Pat Przeslawski, supported by Richard Anderson, to approve the contract between Northeast and the 23rd Circuit/81st District Court as presented. Motion carried.

XII. Information and/or Comments from the Public

Tim Gray reported the PICC group was informed Northeast's surplus carryforward was almost the same amount as the Affiliation's total surplus carryforward. Mr. White noted this was correct as AuSable Valley and North Country did not lapse funds last fiscal year.

XIII. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of Northeast Michigan Community Mental Health Authority Board will be held Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

A. Set February Agenda

Gary Nowak requested input from Board members for the February agenda. Public Relations will be focused on in lieu of the February educational session. Pat Przeslawski also requested the PA's be invited to the Board meeting. Alan Fischer suggested the past, present and future of the medical department be an educational session. He noted turnover in that department is more than desired. Tony White reported Dr. Williams has been with us under a one-year contract, has been here for six months and has submitted his notice that he will not be renewing his contract. Cathy Meske also reported the Clinical Nurse Practitioner (CNP) has also submitted her resignation. Cathy Meske reported the CNP is establishing a practice locally and will welcome our consumers. She practices holistic medicine and will be a valuable resource for our agency.

B. Meeting Evaluation

Pat Przeslawski reported there was a lot of participation among board members at this meeting. All offered good opinions.

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by Judy Hutchins, supported by Virginia DeRosia, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. This meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

signed by Virginia DeRosia on 2/10/11
Virginia DeRosia, Secretary

signed by Gary Nowak on 2/10/11
Gary Nowak, Chair

Diane Hayka
Recorder