



MEETING MINUTES

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Thursday, March 9, 2017 7:00 PM

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, 2100 Ridge Avenue, room 2402

Members Present: S. Johnson, K. Ruetzel, C. Fleming, I. Ziaya, R. Feiler, M. Pierce

Members Absent: J. Taylor, L. Murphy, J. Sales

Staff: J. Wingader

Presiding Member: S. Johnson, Board Chair

Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum

Chair Johnson declared a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Approval of the January 12, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Pierce moved approval of the January 12, 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Ziaya. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Karen Danczak Lyons: EPL Social Services

Evanston Public Library Director, Karen Danczak Lyons discussed the expansion of social services supports provided at the library through a contract for a full time Social Worker. The goal is to best serve library patrons and community members and to increase connections to vital supports available in the community. Ms. Danczak Lyons introduced Justine Janis and explained that, while Ms. Janis is a full-time employee of Presence Behavioral Health, she works full-time at the library Monday through Saturday. Ms. Janis discussed her work with patrons and staff and highlighted partnerships formed with other organizations including Connections for the Homeless. To date, Ms. Janis has met with 50 patrons; she outlined several goals she is hoping to accomplish in the upcoming months. Chair Johnson requested that the Board receive ongoing reports about the library's social services program from Presence or the Health & Human Services Department.

Liaison Reports

Chair Johnson provided an update on the Childcare Network of Evanston and Infant Welfare Society.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Discussion of Draft Bylaws

Ms. Ruetzel called for feedback on the Board revised bylaws. Ms. Fleming confirmed that specific goals would not be included. Ms. Ziaya reviewed Article 7 – City Liaison to the Mental Health Board, and suggested that it was important to preserve it; the Board agreed. Chair Johnson called for a motion. Ms. Ruetzel moved to accept the revised bylaws, Ms. Feiler seconded. A voice vote was taken and the revisions were accepted. The revisions proposed by the board will be reviewed and bylaws finalized by the Legal Department.

Discussion of Goals and ZoomGrants Questions

The Board tabled this item to give members more time to submit feedback. Members reviewed and confirmed the process for submitting feedback; members will provide feedback in writing to staff who will compile and send to the working committee for review. Feedback will be available in the packet when this item is next on the agenda. Members agreed to discuss the topic at the next meeting.

Staff Report

Staff provided the following information:

- Update on changes to the Preschool for All program for FY 2018 that is funded through the Early Childhood Block Grant. This program currently funds between 70 and 80 childcare slots in Evanston. Lindsay Percival, Executive Director of Child Care Center of Evanston provided additional information about the status of the grant application process and the agencies working in partnership to provide services.
- The Welcoming Cities initiative which the board discussed briefly.
- 2016 monitoring; members requested that all 2016 site visit letters be included in the next packet.
- Staff invited the Board to review the 2016 CAPER available for public review and comment.
- There was discussion about the Board's role in upcoming initiatives.

Chair Report

Chair Johnson encouraged all to review the EPlan; highlighting that the plan included a partnership between the Board and the Health & Human Services Department to address mental health needs in the community. She requested that a member of Health & Human Service Department provide a report with any updates at the next meeting. Chair Johnson also announced that Mr. Pierce and Ms. Taylor would form the nominating committee to determine Chair and Vice Chair positions.

Adjournment

Ms. Feiler moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Fleming. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Wingader
Grants and Compliance Specialist