

DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING

February 8, 2011

Approved

Committee Members Present: Cynthia Luxton, John Rogalin, Ken Ritchie

Staff Present: Mark Parrish, Kathy Ostlick

Other Persons Present:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Luxton called the meeting to order at 8:42 a.m.

2. AGENDA

Mr. Rogalin moved to approve the amended agenda; seconded by Ms. Luxton. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

3. MINUTES

Mr. Rogalin moved to approve the amended minutes of the December meeting; seconded by Ms. Luxton. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

4. BEN GORDON CENTER - GURLER STREET APARTMENT DEATH

Mr. Parrish reported that there have been 3 deaths in 3 years at the Gurler Street apartments. Mr. Parrish and Mr. Flora will be meeting to discuss this issue on 2/14/11.

Mr. Rogalin had 3 questions. One, is it an actual fact that there have been 3 deaths. Two, is the report of the recent death being an overdose from the coroner. Three, why was there a discrepancy in the reporting from what the original report from Hope Haven said and the actual situation, hysterectomy vs pregnancy.

Mr. Parrish explained that the child birth was not originally reported by the person in question. Hope Haven had been called by the person and wanted to return to Hope Haven because she said she was not getting care. Mr. Rogalin asked that Mr. Parrish produce a report after he speaks to Mr. Flora.

Ms. Luxton said that she had spoken to Mr. Flora after the Budget Training. Mr. Flora reported that the Gurler Street apartment program is a HUD program. The renters need to be in treatment somewhere to qualify to live there, but it is not a licensed treatment program. There is a team consisting of DeKalb Housing, BGC, & Hope Haven that meet regularly regarding this program and they are investigating.

Mr. Rogalin said that Section 8, HUD Housing, is a housing thing. The support that Ben Gordon Center receives is not funded by Mental Health but is supported by tax dollars. In that regard, Mr. Rogalin believes that the Mental Health Code applies. If the Mental Health Code applies, then it could be within the authority of the OIG, Office of the Inspector General. Mr. Rogalin said he believes that something is wrong with the program, might be something different in all three cases, maybe some other failure like incorrect supervision, incorrect diagnosis, incorrect discharge, etc. When there are 3 deaths in the same place something is wrong and someone should find out what it is.

Dr. Kirts said that it does not necessarily mean anything is wrong, but they could have died from something unrelated to mental health. Our board should not be privy to the person's medical information, but we should know that an internal review, or autopsy, was or has been done.

Ms. Luxton said she believes that there are multiple issues going on, a concern about what is going on in terms of following the clients at Gurler, issues between the agencies, and the reaction of staff that worked with this client.

Mr. Rogalin said again that it seems to be a problem, but maybe not, and someone should look into the issue and that is his concern.

Ms. Luxton reported that Mr. Flora said that they received the coroner's report and that they were OK. They are JHACO accredited.

Mr. Flora called Ms. Luxton on Monday 2/7/11 and said he had reported the incident to the Office of the Inspector General. Mr. Flora said that if the CMHB was still concerned, that he would set up a time for several representatives of our board to meet with the Ben Gordon Center board.

Ms. Luxton suggested that she and Mr. Parrish sit down with Lesly Wicks from Hope Haven for a discussion of her concerns and issues.

Mr. Rogalin believes that we do have a responsibility to oversee this question.

Dr. Kirts had several concerns about how the Gurler apartments are run, specifically are the apartments full and is there a Gordon Center staff living in one of the apartments?

Mr. Rogalin asked what exactly does the Gordon Center do at the site to supervise. Dr. Kirts said that the residents are supposed to be able to take care of themselves. Mr. Rogalin wondered if more support for this program is needed. Dr. Kirts added that maybe another model should be used.

Ms. Luxton said that we have an opportunity to make change to this program if needed and if we were able to do so.

Ms. Luxton summarized; no call to the OIG at this time, follow up when information is available, Mr. Parrish to meet with Mr. Flora, Ms. Luxton and Mr. Parrish to meet with Hope Haven, and Dr. Kirts suggested to look at other models for this program with the possibility of our board playing a roll to facilitate something at a later date.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Parrish submitted a thank you letter from Hinckley Big-Rock for our financial participation in their Parent University program as a refresher.

Mr. Parrish also reported that he had to cancel the Agency Director's meeting from 1/20/11 due to illness.

Mr. Parrish also reported that his schedule is Monday through Thursday with the possibility of working from home on Fridays.

Ms. Luxton also reported that she and Mr. Parrish had met with our new board member, Jeff Whelan, for an orientation. They reviewed our mission, goals, county budget, meeting schedule, etc.

6. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL POLICY

Several wording changes were discussed.

Mr. Rogalin moved to submit the amended Claims Approval Policy to the board; seconded by Rev. Ritchie. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

7. FSA AND DCYSB PROPOSAL REVIEW

Mr. Parrish and Ms. Luxton went to a non-profit collaboration training proposal presentation by Lean Manufacturing. This is a training that promotes doing more with less. The program teaches improving internal efficiency, external efficiencies between agencies, and unnecessary duplication. YSB will be the first agency to utilize this program. Dave Miller of the Family Service Agency and Jason Nicol of the DeKalb County Youth Service Bureau were on the steering committee to promote this process in DeKalb County. Financing for agencies throughout the county that participate in this training will be provided by the Robert's Foundation and others.

Ms. Luxton said that there is an organization in Illinois called IMAC and they are funded by the state and operate out of NIU similar to a for-profit business training arm of the university and they do this in collaboration with the community colleges through their business training centers that also operate as for-profit.

Two organizations in our area that have recently completed this training are Kishwaukee Hospital and Delnor Hospital. They both reported already seeing more efficient operations within their organizations.

8. BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE TASKFORCE FINAL REPORT

Mr. Rose will present the Behavioral Healthcare Taskforce Final Report at the board meeting on 2/21/11.

Mr. Rogalin wanted the record to show that he was not involved in the preparation of the final report although he had been appointed the board liaison.

9. BOB KELLER - BUDGET TRAINING

This was discussed in the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Parrish explained that the training was very well received, agencies learned financial strategies that may help their organizations. The Finance Committee also discussed hiring Mr. Keller to meet with individual agencies if they desired. Mr. Parrish is looking into the details of that process and will present a proposal to the Finance Committee at a later date.

10. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING AGENDA

The Board meeting agenda was discussed and amended.

11. CLOSED SESSION

Rev. Ritchie moved to go into Closed Session at 9:47 a.m.; seconded by Mr. Rogalin. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Mr. Rogalin moved to return to Open Session at 10:53 a.m.; seconded by Rev. Ritchie. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 3/1/11 at 8:30 a.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Luxton, President

Kathy Ostdick, Recording Secretary