

Virginia Mental Health Planning Council Minutes

April 13, 2011

North Park Library

8508 Franconia Road

Henrico VA 23227

Attendees: Robert Friedline, Betty Etzler, James A. Johnson, Jim Martinez, Rhonda Thissen, Catherine Hancock, Donna Sue Harmon, Patricia Meyer, Bonnie Neighbour, Mary Kaye Johnston, Becky Sterling, Paula Price, Anne Burhans, Donna Wenzel, Brian Parrish, Susan Williams, Katherine Hunter, Mira Signer

MHPC Guests: Christopher Power (CMHS fiscal monitor), Gloria Logsdon, Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) Adult Services Monitor, Beth Caldwell, CMHS Child Services Monitor and Lt. LaMar Henderson, CMHS Federal Project Officer

MHPC Staff: Pat Palmer

Absent: Vicki Hardy-Murrell, Lisa Moore, Irene Walker-Bolton, Alison Hymes, Jack Wood, Mary Ann Beall, Melissa Harless, Ann Cutshall, Michael Pendrak,

Welcome and Introduce Guests: Susan Williams opened the meeting at 10:30 welcoming all and asked that everyone went around the room and told their name, area of work and type of member.

Review and Accept Minutes: - items to be corrected: under Block grant presentation-4 and 5 line.

Sixteen people will be trained as Peer Support Specialists." Donna sue reviewed the February minutes No changes or additions. The minutes were accepted.

Public comments:-

- Bonnie Neighbour announced a Vocal conference on May 24-May 26 at Radford University- Please contact Bonnie for more information.
- Susan Williams was happy to report that the Mental Health Court is in Richmond General District Court. This court would address concerns of people with mental health issues sitting in the Richmond area jails.
- Crisis Intervention Team International is sponsoring its annual conference in Virginia Beach September 12 through September 14.
- Rhonda Thissen advised of a retreat being held at the Roslyn Center on April 18 and April 19 for peer run program directors and leaders to define services and discuss the collection and reporting of peer service data in their programs.
- As part of the federal Center for Mental Health Services' (CMHS) review of our Mental Health Block Grant program, the CMHS site review team attended the meeting to obtain the Council's perspective on its input to the development of the annual Block Grant application and Block grant funded services. The reviewers distributed a list of discussion questions to the Council. Adult Services Reviewer Gloria Logsdon stated that it was customary for the State staff to leave the room during the discussion and suggested DBHDS staff might do that, but the Council voted to have DBHDS staff remain in the room during the discussion. The reviewers planned to meet in the afternoon with consumer and family representatives. Council members Bonnie

Neighbour, Brian Parrish, Mira Signer and Becky Sterling agreed to provide the adult consumer/family perspective, and Donna Wenzel provided the child/family perspective.

Lunch: 12:15 to 12:50

Block Grant Presentation: Paula Price agreed to postpone until June 15th meeting when more council members would be present.

Break

By-Laws Report and Discussion: Bob and Anne went over the policy manual page by page. Bob Friedline wanted to know who was responsible for doing different things. The ability to know and who, how, when and where provides a measure the effectiveness. This manual will be useful to new members on the council and also long time members. The Manual provides an interpretation on of things to know and have a place to keep information. The history of the MHPC would be in the notebook. Please email any comments about the manual to either Bob Friedline at bayanbob@hotmail.com , or Anne Burhans at vab6218@earthlink.net .

Questions and Discussion: We need updates to the website. Paula will speak to Rhonda Thissen to confirm who should administer the website. It was discussed who would be responsible for letting Rhonda know changes, and would track the website. Donna Sue will take this on. It was also discussed that we need an update on job descriptions, need for nominations committee and possibility of some type of press relations to increase visibility. There is a strong need for recruitment for new people to fill the various opening in the representation of the council. It would be helpful to get leads from all members of the council. We need a list of Block Grant recipients and Susan William will find out.

Agenda items, requests, other: There were questions in regard to updating the website Mary Kaye Johnston will scan Mental Health Planning Council of Virginia Policy and Procedures. Susan Williams will email the manual to the council. Mira Signer /Vice President will preside over MHPC meeting in June. An idea of having a Presidents luncheon inviting all past Presidents was discussed as a way to gain perspective from past experience. Having the past Presidents coming to the retreat was also suggested.

Adjournment 2:05

Respectively Submitted by

Pat Palmer

Mental Health Planning Council

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