



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 10, 2019

1:00 – 3:30 PM

Lewis Cass Building

3rd Floor Large Conference Room

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:15pm by Shaun Thompson.

Attendance

Present: Shaun Thompson, Chair; Basil Scott; Dr. Robert John Lagrou; Jennifer Gorman, Vice Chair (via phone); Margaret Stooksberry (via phone); Elizabeth O'Dell (via phone); Norman G. DeLisle, Jr. (via phone)

Absent: Vendella Collins*; Darlene Logan

MDHHS Representatives: John T. Sanford, Office of Recipient Rights, Director; Andrew Silver, Office of Recipient Rights, Director of Training, Education and Compliance (via phone); Jim Klingenberg, Rights Specialist, Caro Center; Julie Markham, Office of Recipient Rights Executive Administrative Assistant

Guests: Morgan VanDenBerg, BCBA, Autism Behavior and Early Childhood Specialist, MDHHS, Autism Section; Chad Witcher, Office of Recipient Rights, DWMHA; Kathy Heman, Washtenaw Association for Community Advocacy

Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve the agenda: J. Gorman, B. Scott. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 8, 2018: J. Gorman, B. Scott. Motion carried.

New Business – 2019 Goal-setting and focus on rebuilding RRAC

RRAC is cut out of a lot of important conversations and needs to re-establish relationships with other agencies like MP&A. The committee is getting impacted by legislation that comes through and needs to create an audience of influence. Privatization of state hospitals could shift support against recipient rights. The committee needs an advocate.

Member goal suggestions:

- S. Thompson – Re-establish relationship with the new Director of Behavioral Health; stick to committee bylaws; and let goal setting become a standing agenda item.
- J. Gorman – Go somewhere else to present awareness and ask for feedback about committee and obtain a list of key legislators on mental health committees.
- Dr. Lagrou – Be proactive and introduce the committee to others to become a resource, the Mental Health Code should be updated, get a legislative champion to be a part of the committee, and suggest updating the code to make the rights office more effective.

- N. DeLisle – Reach out to the new Director of MP&A.
- E. O'Dell – Agrees working with the legislature but set smaller tasks in the meantime to meet with personal senators and representatives to make them aware of the committee.
- B. Scott – Reach out to the legislature and other groups making less-informed support of bills.
- J. Klingenberg – Bring technology to the new Caro Center for communication in the 21st century, especially for the younger age recipients.

Director's Report – J. Stanford presented the Director's Report from the Office of Recipient Rights.

- Harbor Oaks investigation – Not able to provide results of investigation until the new Director gives the okay.
- HB 5625 – Mediation (investigation gets put on hold). Fast tracked through Senate. Proponents of the bill: MP&A, MDHHS, and task force. ORR or RRAC not informed or involved with legislation. Shaun and Dr. George Mellos spoke against passing this legislation. Legislation successfully put on hold (Basil Scott suggested sending a letter to bill sponsor (D-Fred Durhal, District 5). Future meetings are scheduled with Marianne and Marc Weinstein for further discussion.
- ORR Management is conducting monthly meetings between Raymie Postema and MP&A Abuse and Neglect Specialty staff attorney contact Andrea Rizer. The current MP&A director is retiring the end of January 2019 and the Head of Abuse and Neglect Specialty will become the new Director.
- The Rights conference has been turned over to the Board Association for logistics with a tentative contract with the Board Association for the next three years. ORR will continue to provide content. The conference will be held in Battle Creek – Doubletree (2019), Ypsilanti – Marriott (2020) and Crystal Mountain (2021).
- Theresa Randleman was introduced as the new Grants Analyst and will be seeking out grants for ORR. Theresa is working with the grants management division with the main goal being adding additional staff, although previous POC's have been denied but states there are a lot of areas to be covered and are well under way. Areas of interest for grants include training and knowing your rights.

Staff Reports

Andy Silver – Education, Training and Compliance Director

- 2019 document assessments are ready to be distributed with addition of refinements to scoring with clarifications. Macomb has been moved into 2019 to spread out Oakland, Wayne and Macomb assessment cycles.
- A conference call is scheduled for January 25, 2019 to discuss issues surrounding assessments, training and other questions.
- A training workgroup revision should be ready by Summer 2019.

Jim Klingenberg for Raymie Postema – Hospital and Community Investigations

- Dr. George Mellos, acting Deputy Director of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, agrees with the findings of the Harbor Oaks investigation.
- The new Caro Center groundbreaking was held in October 2018 with a halt on admissions over the past two months.
- Safe Haven unit tried to split units to reduce behaviors, but with possible building closures, they may have to return to housing residents in two units again. Doctors from CFP (Center for Forensic Psychiatry) are currently rotating at Caro on a regular basis due to a Psychiatrist shortage.

- The mental health bill passed at the 11th hour. HB 5820 revised Chapter 5. There have been 15-20 judicial admissions with a bill revamping policies. We will continue to keep an eye on this bill as “treatment” is poorly defined.

Vacancies – None

Old Business –

- Currently one application has been received in the ORR office to participate on the Recipient Rights Advisory Committee, while one other application is being completed. This application is currently awaiting approval from the MDHHS Directors office. This will leave one position for the RRAC committee with the stepping down of Michael McCue from the RRAC committee.
- Neil Marchand is the newest member of the Appeals Committee.
- Shaun and Kim Saterlee-Fink continue to work on the survey of FTE’s for each rights office. RROAM may have this information or Michigan Association may have.
- Shaun and Kim continue to work on membership attendance records.
- Bylaws have been addressed, as above.

Additional Business – None

Public Comment – None

Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 12, 2019, Lewis Cass Building, 3rd Floor Large Conference Room at 1:00pm. (only this meeting will be held on Tuesday, the remainder on Thursday’s)

Adjournment – S. Thompson adjourned at 2:36pm.

***Excused absence**

ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- **Please be mindful of the meeting time and be ready to start at 1:00pm**
- Anyone interested in serving on the RRAC committee please fill out an application and have returned to Julie Markham at MarkhamJ@Michigan.gov as soon as possible.
- Anyone interested in serving on the Appeals Committee please fill out an application and have returned to Kimberly Saterlee-Fink at SaterleeK@Michigan.gov as soon as possible.
- Goal setting will be a standing agenda item for every meeting. Please try to come up with goals before the next meeting.