



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON
DIRECTOR

RECIPIENT RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
FINAL MEETING MINUTES, **AS AMENDED**
September 10, 2020
via Teams meeting **due to Pandemic**

OPENING REMARKS

Call to Order 1:08 PM

Role call to approve agenda

PRESENT: Roll call vote established that Recipient Rights Advisory Committee members: Norm DeLisle, Liz Healy, Liz O'Dell, Margaret Stooksberry, Shaun Thompson, Dr. Robert Lagrou, Vendella Collins and Jennifer Gorman were present. Also attending the meeting were Raymie Postema, Andrew Silver, James Klingenberg and Veronica Ryan, recorder.

ABSENT: Price Pullins, Tish Watson

CALL IN: Dianne Baker, (but experienced technical difficulties)

Approval of Meeting Minutes, July 9, 2020

Approval of meeting minutes from July 2020. A request was made by Jennifer to change of name from Trish Watson to Tish Watson.

Motion to make a correction of minutes by Margaret Stooksberry, Shaun Thompson second. Roll call vote: Norm, Liz O'Dell, Liz Healy, Margaret Stookberry, Shaun Thompson, Dr. Robert Lagrou, Vendella Collins.

New Business:

Welcome new member: skipped for the moment due to technical difficulties.

Nominating Committee for new Chair and Co-Chair of committee.

Jennifer is seeking three people to head up nominating committee. The individuals must be willing to take a look, get names together and email individuals that might be interested in either position. Shaun Thompson, Liz Healy, and Jennifer Gorman are on the committee.

Cookie Gant Spirit Award

- 4 nomination were received. Two candidates did not qualify to receive the award. 2 candidates met the criteria to receive the award, both qualifying candidates were unanimously nominated.
- Roll call for the nominations: Approved: Norm DeLisle, Liz O'Dell, Liz Healy, Margaret Stooksberry,
- Vendella Collins, Dr. Robert Lagrou, Shaun Thompson and Jennifer Gorman. Andy Silver requested that Jennifer send the information to Veronica Ryan.

Code Change Recommendations

- Dr. Lagrou indicated that the meeting was good, but the process was more complicated than thought, decided to go through some chapters and rather than make definitive changes, focus on the various sections are good and some sections in which more revisions need to be made in the future.
- Liz Healy commented that it was interesting that some things were under construction or review already, and so that it was nice having all parties at the table so that there was no duplication of work.
- Jennifer indicated that there were 8 specific rule sections that the subcommittee identified as the areas that we needed to be reviewed more closely. Jennifer also commented that she thought the meeting was productive.
- Raymie inquired about the seclusion and restraint information sent out to committee. In reviewing, she wanted to know the process for addressing recommended changes. Recommendations of the Committee will be forwarded to Director Gordon upon completion. Raymie met with Elizabeth Hertel and let her know that the Committee was reviewing the MHC for potential revisions. Elizabeth Hertel indicated that she would be willing to meet with the group.
- Committee agreed that is great news, a coherent way to go forward, good approach. Discussion about code changes ended.

2020 ORR Annual Conference

- Andy Silver reported that the conference is different this year, it is going to be very interesting to do this, the technology is absolutely wonderful. There is a good line up of speakers, and a record number of attendees (350) so it gave an opportunity for people who would not normally have the opportunity to attend, to attend. The larger CMHs that could only send a portion of their staff, now can send the majority of their staff because the staff do not have to go anywhere.
- Jim: questioned if this goes well, if there is a thoughts doing a hybrid in the future, if the conference can be held face to face but for those that can not attend doing something using some of this tech moving forward- Andy indicated that ability to consider that is there, one of the things this year we were able to lower the rates due to the reduction of expenses. Conference next year is at Crystal Mountain.

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Vacancies for this committee

- Currently there are 11 out of 12 people required on this committee; Basil Scott's seat is unfilled.
- Jennifer expressed concerns about Price Pullins attendance. Jennifer will reach out to Price as indicated in the by-laws.
- Discussion included questioning if applications have been received, and Raymie responded that she has not seen any come her way.
- It was suggested that a letter/card be sent to Basil-committee for his continued years of service. Raymie indicated we don't have an address.

- Jennifer asked that the committee keep eyes/ears open for anyone interest in joining the committee.

ORR Update

Raymie's Report

- Items on Raymie's agenda are Mediation. The law went in effect in March, still waiting for the State to get the RFP completed to contract with a Mediation Organization. Jeff Weiferich has put out notices to PHPs and CMHs regarding the fact that this was supposed to be up and running by October 31st and that service could not be offered because the State had not completed the contract as required by law. A meeting took place two weeks ago the RFP is still pending and Jeff sent out another letter indicating that it could be as late as March 1, 2021. There is a work group that has been doing really good work at getting together contract language, and training materials but we need an organization to work with. Raymie wanted to make people aware of that although it says you have a right to mediation and we have updated the book, the Rights book it just is not true yet.
- Many things budgetary approvals have been delayed and are not getting done right now related to the state budget. This should be resolved by October 1, 2020.
- There is interest in putting together an ORR registry of employees who have substantiated violations of abuse or neglect. Raymie has gotten communication from a CMH director and has met with Al Jansen, Jeff Weiferich and Belinda Hawks. There are questions about figuring out how it would be done at this point. There was some draft legislation that was put together back in 2008, regarding the registry and it comes down to figuring out who keeps it, how it gets updated, and what appeal mechanism would go along with it. Discussion ensued.
- Budget issues: the '21 budget-the legislators are meeting presently with department heads and MDHHS budget. ORR vacant position, has been stuck in the budget office. Raymie's understanding is the current hiring freeze is being lifted or there will be a much looser hiring freeze and those positions should break free by October 1st. Raymie stated that all offices have had to put together a list of potential reductions in the budget.
- Currently we are working on obtaining Medicaid match the positions of Community Rights Specialists related to the CMH certification process.
- Direct Community Placement Program, which is a program put together by the State Hospital Administration and they are doing a direct contract with Beacon and Hope Network to do direct placements that they are paying for directly out of State Hospitals. The CMH will still be involved in the discharge planning however, the services will be provided solely under contract with the State budget. The program is designed to possibly take up to 100 consumers and it that were to happen that is more than enough for a full time Rights person.
- Dr. Mellos invited ORR staff to attend training that they are paying for through MPHI for Diversity and Inclusion training.

- Dr. Mellos was to join today's meeting but he was unable to attend. ORR has asked that he be put on the November schedule. Also, Allan Jansen is willing to meet with the committee as well.

ETU Unit

- The report was sent to committee for the Education Training and Compliance Unit. The report was reviewed
- Jim indicated that he did Building Blocks in July on Zoom and stated that it went quite well, better than expected. Break out rooms were available, so attendees could work together on their projects which is integral to the Building Blocks session.

Field Unit

- Caro Center is still in progress of rebuilding.
- New director at KPH, Dr. Hill, who was there medical director, now the facility director.
- There have been changes at KPH. They have been making changes there because there have been a lot of restrictions that should not have general limitations or restrictions on patients.
- Walter Reuther, had seen the most COVID cases during early months but things are settling down. The CFP Director has been sending out daily updates, which includes a little information about the sister hospitals. The report includes numbers of actual cases, positive cases, symptoms, staff involved across the 5 State Hospitals.

Additional Questions

- Jennifer questioned what the Advisory Committee could do to help support ORR. Raymie feels that things are moving along, everybody is in a waiting pattern presently with the state and federal level budget. Al Jansen of BHDDA and Dr. Mellos at the State Hospital Administration have both been very supportive, which has been wonderful.
- Jennifer questioned the scheduling of Liz Hertel and inquired whether to wait until we schedule Dr. Mellos and Al Jansen. Raymie will leave the schedule up to Jennifer. Jennifer indicated that she would extend the invitation and see who can come and when.
- Dianne Baker joined the meeting by phone, and was asked to introduce herself, however we ran into technical difficulties. Jennifer will make sure that we put a full introduction for Dianne on the agenda at the next meeting.
- Sean Thompson asked if there were any changes to the 20/21 contract between the department and CMH regarding training for direct care staff. Raymie indicated that there are no changes to the training portion to 20/21 contract and stated that whatever was there before will continue to be there.

Additional business:

Liz Healy indicated that Bronson is merging with another mental health facility. Bronson is planning to have a DD. Bronson currently has 39 beds, hoping to get 83 total and

eventually scale up to 150 beds and have an adult unit, general unit, dd unit, and eventually add an adolescent unit, substance abuse unit and dual diagnosis unit.

Public Comment:

- Jennifer advised Shawn Bennett that the committee read his letter at the last meeting and it went into the official minutes and his letter was passed on to the State Hospital Administration. Jennifer thanked Shawn for his efforts in bringing matters to our attention.
- Raymie also advised Shawn that she passed his letter on to Director Gordon. Shawn expressed that he appreciated the letter being forwarded Director Gordon because Director Gordon is a very important person as he is a highly trained lawyer who can competently, hopefully deal with a very complex issue.
- Shawn indicated that there a lot of balancing going on and its not a simple one and there is fear that if people are not on drugs, they will be dangerous. But the important thing is to commence our dialog about it and to realize that most of the other states that protect this right . Shawn stated that is a lame argument to say that Michigan cannot do at least as much to protect informed consent as the other states do. Shawn wanted to present two approaches that the committee and the group can do :
 - #1 Use a systemic reform approach or a policy reform
 - #2 Shawn indicated he felt that MDHHS-ORR had the authority to open an investigation that people are not getting appropriate services. He was hoping to make himself clear. Shawn thanked the committee for his time today.

Additional items for next meeting

Inviting Elizabeth Hertel, Al Jansen and Dr. Mellos to November's meeting

Dianne Baker's Introduction

Continued discussion for the review of nominations for the committee Chair and Vice Chair

Jennifer motioned to adjourn, Liz Healy, and Shaun Thompson second motion.

Roll call vote to adjourn, Liz Healy, Shaun Thompson others could not vote due to technical issues

Meeting adjourned 2:24 PM