

Fairfield County ADAMH Board

Minutes of the October 25, 2011, Board meeting held at 6:30 p.m. at the Board office pursuant to notice mailed to all Board members.

Chairman Bahnsen called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. with no quorum being present.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Tom Alexander, Jay Bahnsen, John Hoag, Ph.D.*, Pat Marshall, Sheri Perry, Marian Reitano.

ABSENT

Cindy Bender, Tom Feisel, Robert Masone, M.D., Phillip Prior, M.D.

STAFF

Rhonda Myers, Don Mohler, Patricia Waits, Nadine Carroll.

GUESTS

Dr. Erin Roylance, Tony Motta, Dan Neeley, Traci Mason, Trisha Saunders, Suzanne Pelletier-Capitini, Caryl Caito, Esther Branscome.

Chairman Bahnsen asked the audience to introduce themselves and if they had any questions or comments.

Trisha Saunders, Director of the Recovery Center and Traci Mason, Chief Operations Officer of the Recovery Center showed board members a video of the Pearl House, a project that they have been working on for a year and a half. This project, which is a collaboration of The Recovery Center, Fairfield Metropolitan Housing Authority, Community Action, and Gorsuch Realty/Fairfield Homes, will be cost neutral for the Recovery Center. It consists of two phases, the first being the rehabbing of the old Lancaster Hardware building for the Recovery Center to move into. The second phase involves building a new structure on the site of a used car lot on the corner of Chestnut Street and Memorial Drive. This building will be a three story, completely secure facility that will have 36 apartments to provide persons that are in recovery a safe place for them and their family to live. Most are homeless or living in unsafe conditions that could preclude them from being successful in their recovery. The downtown site was chosen because of its convenience to the other services such as Jobs & Family Services, Drug Court and other social services they will need. They can easily walk to their destination so transportation does not stop them from getting the help they need. Counseling will be provided by the Recovery Center. They will receive life skills training, employment assistance and wraparound services to help them be successful. This will be sober, clean housing with random drug testing and very strict lease requirements. They will be under strict regulations with a security guard checking people in and out at all times. This housing will give them a place to stay while in recovery and help them become stable and then help them get out on their own. Trisha told the board that they need a letter of support for this project.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Director Myers reported on the hiring process for the Research & Administrative Assistant position. Director Myers stated that 47 applications were received for this position and that she and Nadine reviewed the applications and selected eight applications that most closely fit the position

requirements. Two persons had to withdraw from candidacy; the remaining six were first interviewed by Director Myers and then by the staff as a whole. It was a very tough process as the whole group of applicants was outstanding. The applicant that was selected was Martha Pool. Director Myers explained that a half-time research position was mandated by the SPF-SIG grant and the Board funded the other half of the position for a much needed administrative support person. The SPF-SIG grant targets the higher user group which is 18-25 year olds.

Director Myers told the board we are in phase to do needs assessments so we will have data for the Board on what the communities needs are. We will also be using the Ethics of Scarcity model.

Director Myers updated the Board on the Opiate Task Force. She noted that it has been almost two years since the task force was started by Orman. It is a wonderful collaboration of community agencies. She also distributed the OTF brochure and the annual report that covers the time from the task force began, November 2009 until July of 2011. Nadine created the documents, incorporated feedback, and produced drafts and a final version. Rick Szabrak's editing helped tremendously in finishing these documents. She also noted that M. Reitano joined the steering committee last week and that P. Marshall has been asked to join the Business & Industry committee.

Director Myers also discussed the community survey that was done two years ago and needs to be done again in February so we can compare to the baseline data of two years ago.

Director Myers discussed attending the Tyler's Light meeting which Dr. Hoag also attended. An item of interest was a membership card.

Director Myers reviewed OARRS data talking about the prescriptions filled data. It helps the community to monitor the change in the volume/type of prescriptions filled. If the county amount is lower than the state average they won't give us the actual amount. She also commented on Dr. Stevenson providing great leadership in promoting/facilitating physician registration in the OARRS program. Dan Neeley commented that it is probably hard to get data from the underground. He wondered if the data follows actual use. Trisha said that it correlates almost exactly. She said that Orman was shocked at how close the data was. Director Myers noted that ODADAS is going out and talking to people who use plus professionals and agencies and they are doing quarterly reports on their findings. She added that this is good information to look at along with our other data. Chairman Bahnsen stated that her son is a first responder in Florida and he reports that seniors are being assaulted and raided for their drugs, nursing homes also. Trisha stated that crime is definitely a problem but lots of recovering addicts work a job and you would never know they have a problem. S. Perry commented that a lot of her classmates are in the 18-25 age range and they think that it's a choice. Trisha said that Opiate Task Force is a great group and thanked the board for keeping it going.

Director Myers said that historically the board has combined the November and December board meetings in early December because of the holidays. It was decided to have the next board meeting on December 6th.

*Dr. Hoag arrived – quorum requirements now met.

Chairman Bahnsen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the September Board minutes.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-25-11-1

Be it resolved upon motion by M. Reitano and second by S. Perry to approve the September minutes. Motion was unanimously approved.

Ad Hoc Finance Committee

Don Mohler reported on the September financials.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-25-11-2

Be it resolved upon motion and second by the Finance Committee to approve the September financials. Motion was unanimously approved.

Don reported that we used 79 days of state hospitalization to date which puts us behind our budgeted use but that can change at any time. P. Marshall asked if the 163 days was based on a linear budget. Don stated that it is 1/12 of the annual allotment. He also noted that since we don't actually receive dollars for state hospitalization, it does not show up on the financials. Tony commented that demand is down in the first quarter. He added that some patients go to private hospitals instead of the state hospital including Fairfield Medical Center; we use a combination of facilities. S. Perry asked if private beds are covered by the board and wouldn't it be better to use bed days than paying for bed days. Patricia stated that hospitals are very different and that Emergency Services workers try to send the patient to the hospital that best fits their needs.

T. Alexander reported that the Finance Committee discussed the vacant house issue. Director Myers will be doing more research and contacting three realtors to get a fair market value and rehab costs. T. Alexander said according to the information we have it looks like the asbestos is gone. S. Perry noted that it does look like the asbestos is gone but they covered themselves that it was gone but there is still a chance more could be found. Patricia noted that we need to get ODMH approval before we do anything with that house.

T. Alexander said the good news is the paybacks and levy rollbacks are smaller than they thought but we are still maintaining a moratorium on spending. We need a better read on this before we do anything. He reviewed the allocation sheet to see the proposed SFY 2012 budget.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-25-11-3

Be it resolved upon motion and second by the Finance Committee to approve the SFY 2012 system budget (above the /// line on the spreadsheet and as delineated on the one page list of allocations). Motion was approved. T. Alexander abstained.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-25-11-4

Be it resolved upon motion by T. Alexander and second by M. Reitano to do a letter of support for the Pearl House project. Motion was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION NO. 10-25-11-5

Be it resolved, upon motion by M. Reitano and seconded by P. Marshall to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

The Board meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Chair

Secretary