

**Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
February 2, 2010**

**Members Present:** T. Ackley, Clites, Holden, Janego, Jones, Miller, Miley, Ostrander, McKenzie, Rauth, M. Wilson

**Absent:** White

**Staff/Board present:** Grossman, Myers, Smith (minutes)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ostrander called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

**Introductions:** None

- Address correction requested.

**Public comment (Non-CAC members):** None

**Previous minutes:** MOTION by Janego to accept the minutes as written. SUPPORTED by Miley. MOTION CARRIED.

**Additions to the agenda:** none

**Lenawee:**

**Report of Board meeting:** A consumer representative should report to the Board each month. It is not appropriate for staff to report. Ostrander will make a list to rotate the responsibility among members each month. If unable to report in any given month, the assigned member is responsible to find a replacement and or notify the Chair of the Committee. Ostrander will also ask T. Ackley to act as a back up, since he attends the meetings. Ostrander will report in February and Miller in March.

Miley reported at the Board meeting. The Board is watching the training DVDs "Board Works" each month prior to the beginning of the meeting. (2:00 PM). The Transition plan for Hope Network was approved.

**Executive Director Report:** Myers

- The Transition Plan for Hope Network includes Goodwill assuming some of Community Connections services. Renaissance operating the Sunrise Group Home, and Christ Centered Homes taking over the N. Adrian Group Home.

Current services for each individual are being reviewed and adjustment made as appropriate. Some services may be provided by the consumer's current individual group home or in some cases may end.

- Clubhouse attendance is down and the unit cost is almost double any other Clubhouse in our Affiliation. A review of outcomes, expenses and other data is requested. Within 60 days recommendations for changes is expected. Changes might include limiting the number of days or hours they are open.
- Budget: A significant reduction in general funds is expected for the next fiscal year. There is a waitlist of consumers needing services but who we are unable to provide service. New cases are opened only on an emergency or urgent basis. A letter has been sent to all consumers about potential service changes. Services will be provided at an appropriate level based on individual need and options available. Some people will be directed to get their medications from their primary care physician rather than CMH.
- Concerns were expressed about relapsing and needing CMH services again.
- Community Connections: Not everyone will transition to the new services providers.
- The Affiliation Directors are determining short-term and long-term strategies to try to keep our mental health system intact.
- The structure and responsibilities of committees are being reviewed for necessity of meeting, meeting frequency, method of meeting (the potential use video conferencing), and expense of meetings. Self evaluations are being done, and the Board will review the systems as well.
- Questions were asked if different populations of consumers could attend New Focus, HOPE Center, Goodwill, or the Drop In Center.

### **Membership:**

Effective immediately Jones is resigning (At-large position) because she is moving out of state. The position can be filled as soon as someone is found.

It is also time to start recruitment for the positions that will be ending in June. These openings include the positions currently held by M. Wilson (MI-Child) and Rauth (DD).

Ostrander, Ackley and Rauth will post signs about recruitment. Ostrander will have it announced on the lobby monitor. Janego will ask staff about potential parents/consumers.

### **Liaison: Grossman**

As Myers mentioned other groups are self evaluating their committee roles. Washtenaw CAC members chose to disband and are starting over with applications to fill the positions for the entire committee. Lenawee CAC seems to need an official "charge", focus or directions. Recent meetings seem to have no purpose or topic. Agenda have repeated the previous meeting reports. Staff is being relied on to direct the group, when it should be consumer directed. Grossman asked: Why are we here? Answers:

- Learn more programs/people.
- Represent/consumers/help
- As a consumer learn my own rights and responsibilities

- Use what we learn to help the Board understand the consumer.
- Learn from Myers reports
- To be more optimistic

At future meetings we will discuss:

- What to do next?
- How best to handle committee and subcommittee work. Merge or end?
- How to increase public involvement.
- What is the Board “charge” for the committee? What is the Committee’s mission?
- How frequently do we need to meet? Monthly, every other month, as needed, quarterly, not at all?
- What is the purpose? If there is no purpose should we continue to meet?
- Should or how can the group expand?
- What do you expect from the Liaison?

**CAC Subcommittees:** (Groups CAC oversees.)

**Legislative:** Not meeting.

**Mental Health Awareness:** The Disability Sensitivity facilitation training will not happen at the meeting. The meeting will be at the Adrian Museum at the normal time.

The Legislative Committee reviews legislative actions, and makes suggestions for events. The MHAC makes the arrangements for the events.

**Affiliation:**

- **Affiliation Consumer Advisory Committee:** Revamping of committees.

**Consumer input and concerns/miscellaneous updates/ INFORMATION SHARING ONLY.** (CAC does not oversee or have direct input into the operations of these organizations.)

- **Interconnections/Drop In Center:** Attendance is increasing.
- **RICC:** Concerns were expressed about the loss of Hope Network and who would replace them.
- **HOPE Center:** no report.
- **Continuum of Care:** LEAHC received some new funding.
- **Miscellaneous:**
  - CAA** has some funds for utilities to avoid shut-offs.
  - CAA** is able to help with filing income tax returns.

**Board Reporting:**

- February; Ostrander
- March: Miller

**MOTION** by Rauth to adjourned meeting at 11:00 AM **SUPPORTED** by M. Wilson. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Next meeting: March 2, 2010** (The first Tuesday of the month.)