

**Consumer Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2008**

Members Present: Beckey, Holden, Metz, Miller, Rauth, Thompson, M. Wilson, R. Wilson

Absent: J. Ackley, (ex) T. Ackley (ex), Berridge, Jones (ex)

Staff/Board present: Grossman, Miley, Myers, Smith, Szewczuk

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Introductions:

- Introductions were made.
- Address corrections were gathered along with the completion contact information for the Regional Customer Service Committee.

Public comment (Non-CAC members): None

Previous Minutes: MOTION by Rauth to accept the minutes as written. SUPPORTED by Beckey. MOTION CARRIED.

Additions to the agenda: Stipends

Lenawee:

Executive Director Report: Myers

- Staff appointments: Following the CAC recommendation to rotate staff on CAC, Myers appointed Grossman to serve a 2 year term on the committee and Janego will serve a 1 year term. Both will start in August, and their replacements will serve two year appointments.
- Board changes: Linda Feeney has retired from the Board. The Personnel Committee will review and decide how to proceed with interviews for her replacement. There are several applications for the position. It will probably be September or October before the position is filled.
- The State Budget for FY 2008-2009 has been approved with no reductions to our General Fund. A proposed 3.4% change to the Medicaid portion of the budget was approved at a 2.9% increase. We should be OK except for general fund expenditures.
- Myers stated his view on a question about stipend payments. He thinks as previously determined only CAC members should be paid for CAC, Legislative subcommittee, and Mental Health Awareness Committee meetings. Recently non-CAC members were mistakenly paid for attendance at some of these meetings. If desired CAC can make a recommendation to change this policy.

Reporting to the Board:

- The membership recommendations were approved. (Holden, Jones, Metz)
- The election of Miller to Chairperson and Beckey as Chair-Elect were approved.
- The Board took no action about the possibility of eliminating the need for the Board to approve the Chair and Chair-Elect positions. This question remains open for discussion. Miley stated the Board has always accepted the nominated slate of officers, and CAC members should reconsider keeping this connection and process with the Board.
(Changes to the *Operating Guidelines* requires a formal reading of the changes at one meeting, with notice to all members and voting at the following meeting. See the Guidelines)
- Staff appointments. Berridge and Thompson service on this committee will end this month.
- The appointed position of Board members on CAC will also change. R. Wilson and J. Ackley will be replaced by Miley at the August meeting and eventually with the new Board member when determined. When there is an opening on CAC, R. Wilson can apply for consumer membership position.

The handing over of the Chairperson position: R. Wilson handed over the responsibility of Chairperson to Miller. Both Thompson and R. Wilson have been with CAC and RCAC from the beginning. Their involvement and work have been instrumental in the success of these two committees.

CAC Operating Guideline:

This proposed amendment was considered read at the June meeting.

IV. "Committee Chairperson/Chairperson Elect

The candidate for committee chairperson-elect will be selected from the current membership at the JUNE meeting each year. Such selection will be made by simple majority of those committee members present and voting.

Positions will start July 1 of each year. At the end of a one-year term the chairperson elect will assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson."

The intent of the change was to eliminate the requirement for Board approval for chair person positions. After a discussion a vote was taken and this change **WAS NOT ACCEPTED**. The Operating Guidelines will not change.

CAC Subcommittees:

- **Legislative:** No meeting. Additional members are needed.
- **Mental Health Awareness:** The Committee met July 14. They are talking about possibly doing a mini-fall festival (carnival type event) in October for Mental Illness Month. Ideas being discussed include booths, games, selling food, skits and role playing to promote anti-stigma.

The new CAC members should think about which subcommittee they would most like to serve on. R. Wilson chairs Legislative and Beckey chairs the Mental Health Awareness Subcommittee. MHA meets the second Monday of each month at 10:00 AM, and Legislative meets the third Friday of each month at 1:00 at

Interconnections Drop-In Center. Metz would like to join Legislative and Holden MHA. R. Wilson will remain on the Legislative Committee.

Overview of May 20th House Parity Offer: Members were asked to discuss the handout that was provided at the last meeting and by mail with the minutes. Parity has long been an issue for mental health. It was recommended that the Legislative Subcommittee review this document and report back to the group.

Stipends: The Committee members agree that non-CAC consumers will not be paid stipends for CAC's subcommittee meeting participation. CAC members will continue to be paid for attendance at CAC, one CAC subcommittee and RCAC meeting each month.

Operating Guideline: MOTION by Thompson to make the following change to the Operating Guidelines. SUPPORTED BY M. Wilson. To be voted on at the August meeting. (Changes to the Operating Guidelines cannot be completed in the same month they are discussed.)

VI - Sub-Committees

The CAC chairperson will appoint and disband all sub-committees. CAC members may request to be on a particular sub-committees. All such sub-committees will exist for a particular purpose and will cease to exist when that purpose is completed. There are no standing sub-committees.

It was also suggested to specify "CAC" or "CAC members" throughout the document rather than just "committee".

(See the attached proposed Operating Guidelines for all the changes to be made.)

Liaison: Szewczuk

- There are free lunches during the summer months for school age children with the Adrian Public Schools.
- The Adrian Library has details about a \$5,000 scholarship.
- Associated Charities is getting ready for their annual back to school program.
- Family To Family will be meeting July 17. The Team decision making groups will be starting. Contact Pam Johnson for more details.
- The Michigan Consumer Conference will be soon. Beckey will be attending.
- Lenawee Community Collaborative may be researching the start of a county health insurance plan. The Access to Health Care Workgroup will be reconvening.

Affiliation:**RCAC:**

- The requirement for RCAC members to be CAC members was only a local Lenawee County process. It is not a formal requirement in either Lenawee's CAC nor RCAC Operating Guidelines. R. Wilson may continue to serve on RCAC.
- The next RCAC will be in Lenawee County. Everyone is welcome to attend. August 13. RSVPs are encouraged.
- Someone should be assigned the responsibility to report back to CAC.
- They are looking at the comfort level of entering CMH. How inviting is the lobby, etc?
- How can the return rate of surveys be increased?
- Regional Customer Service is developing a training for all staff members. Suggestions can be sent to Ross, Szewczuk, or Hall.
- The children's books in the library are seen as a positive.
- The rotation of meetings throughout the year at all the affiliation locations is being discussed. Our members seem to prefer it as it has been.

Information sharing

- **Sharing Hope Conference:** The Regional Events Planning Committee is working on planning the event. There will be auditions for a talent show at CMH, September 17, 2 PM.
- **Interconnections/Drop-In Center:** Donations of puzzles and glue are welcomed. Members are volunteering to work at the County Fair.
- **Lenawee Suicide Prevention Workgroup:** Szewczuk
 - A Surveillance group is meeting to track trends in suicides or attempts.
 - We are applying for a continuation of the grant.
 - A group is meeting to survey businesses about what help is available for employees. New member organizations include South Central Michigan Works, Goodwill, and both local Chamber of Commerce.
 - Dudley Spade continues to do local coffee hours. He plans to do a State Resolution in September about suicide prevention. The Workgroup may work to tie in other media coverage for the same time frame.
 - VSU: The Victim Service Unit has responded to 4 calls since in began a few months ago.
 - The next meeting will be in October.
 - A youth friendly website is being developed.
 - Brochures about suicide prevention are available.
 - CAC members were provided a discussion about youth and suicide. Cutting oneself seems to be common. Suggestions were made about doing presentations to visiting nurses for the elderly, JCC, RICC, and school age children.
- **Continuum of Care:** Snyder is no longer a CAC member. Is a report on this topic wanted, or is anyone willing to report about the efforts of this group? Szewczuk can provide copies of the minutes with CAC minutes.

- **RICC:** Since Whitehouse is now the Director at HOPE Center, he has resigned from RICC as the chairperson. Kristen Columbus is replacing him. Rauth has a new responsibility with ethnic activities at HOPE Center.
- **HOPE Center:**
 - There is a Ride of Hope in memory of Julie. Jessica Hanna is getting married and resigning her position at the Center. Scott Whitehouse will be her replacement.
- **NAMI:** Ballingall is no longer a CAC member. Is a report wanted, or is there anyone that is willing to report about this group?
- **Miscellaneous:** Beckey, Ostrander and Snyder are getting married this month. M. Wilson will get cards to congratulate them.

Reporting to the Board:

July: Rauth (Holden to attend to see how the meeting operates.)

August: Beckey (Metz to attend to see how the meeting operates.)

Thank you again to Thompson and R. Wilson for all their work and participation for the past many years.

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 AM by Beckey. SUPPORTED by Rauth.
MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT MEETING: August 19 9:30 AM CMH
(third Tuesday each month)

AGENDA: attached