

WSAA Board of Directors' Meeting
Wednesday, June 20th, 2007
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Board Members: (10):

Alyce Anderson, Charles Baker, Royalee Bishop, Brenda Desmond, Connie Hebert, Michelle Lewis, Paul Meyer, Marty Onishuk, Denelle Pappier, Courtney Collier Rudbach,

Alternates: (2)

Jacqueline Finlen, Brooke Jacqueth

Ex-officio: (3)

MJ Fox, Dan Ladd, Alexandra Volkerts

Guests: (16)

Dene Battleson, Janet Derringer, Laria Foser, John Honsky, Rosemary Hughes, Kay Jennings, Paula Lester, Mel Mason, Daniel Morehead, Barbara Mueske, Jordan Pappier, Kelli Sather, Tyler Steinbach, Janet Van Dyke, Patrick Wayne, Stacey Wheeler

Public Comments – Introductions:

Alyce Anderson read an article from a newspaper. It stated there are 320 thousand persons suffering from a mental illness who are incarcerated in jails and prisons. If you or a member of your family fit into the above area please write to Dear Abbey. A mental health study is being completed by group of psychiatrists to learn more about this problem. This is sponsored by a group for advance in psychiatry. The address is 322- 701st West, Baltimore, MA 21201

Dr. Hoelle is retiring. He has 600 clients. This will put 250 person on up with no mental health care. Dan Morehead is organizing a group to try and address this issue. The next meeting is Monday 6-25; from 1-3pm in a meeting at St Patrick Hospital. All interested individuals including legislative members Senators Rehberg and Tester are to meet. This will be a working group to address the mental health professional shortage. Once this designation is obtained; there are some student loan repayments plans for medical professionals. Charles Baker brought to attention there is a shortage

throughout the state.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved and seconded to table minutes until next meeting after summary received by Marty Onishuk as well as Charles Baker.

Treasures Report – Paul Meyer: May expenses were lower for May with account balance of \$2,387.41. Mileages, meals, lodging and web master were the expenses (\$1,124.19) Anticipation of increased expenses for the July Summit. The only expenses for will be the costs for today's meeting. Expecting payment by June 30 of \$5,000.00. Anticipate \$10,000 disbursement at the beginning of the fiscal year. AMDD will need a year end report from the SAA on progress and activities as well as expenses to justify income. This report is needed by June 30, 2007. This is needed before further disbursement.

Moved and seconded and approved to accept Treasurer's Report.

Long Range Planning Committee Report – Charles Baker: During conversations, some concern was expressed about overlap between this committee and the duties of MOHAC. He feels this is an action committee. Michelle Lewis advised this is a planning committee as they are looking at 10 years out. Where do we want to be in 10 years? There has been no further activity at this point in reference to the long range planning committee report. Dan Ladd advised this is the most important activity going on due the increase in funding and action needs to start as opposed to discussions regarding procedures. If the SAA does not proceed the money will not be forthcoming in future years. Charles Baker has concerns about the resources to work on this project. He feels we may need to hire a part time employee to work on this project. The Central has a paid scribe. He feels we need one part time paid person that is a primary consumer. Charles states this needs to go faster as the contracts will be let out soon. He feels today at the Congress we should take action of this. He wants this staff person to be independent of anyone else. Dan discussed not making this harder than it actually is. The two year, five year and 10 year plans outline the course. The SAAs are pointing the compass and AMDD is the rowing mechanism. Charles has a question that how much is enough and how much is too much. Dan stated we needed to outline by the list received from legislature.

Alexandra Volkerts states it is very hard to know where we are going until we know what is possible in regards to money. We need to find out what is possible before sitting down and saying what we want. Charles Baker has done some work as has Alexis on other systems and this information needs to be disseminated to members of the WSAA. Charles Baker has not set next meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee. This could be set up to go along with WSAA meetings.

Brenda Desmond stated we have an issue on how to get information and put together in a way that people have time to read it. She suggested perhaps students could help/ The U of M Master's program always has need of a practicum situation and are interested in doing this type of work. This program is currently located in the school of Pharmacy.

Paul Meyer advised that the strategic plan is a good road map and we need to look at what was achieved and what remains to be achieved. We need to outline achievable goals. We were successful during the legislature as we had goals to present to the legislature.

Charles Baker was feeling the person setting this up would be a staff person and not a point person.

Marty Onishuk reported that legislature has 2 studies going; one including persons in the criminal justice system. We would have input. We need to follow up with this problem.

Charles Baker advised that both of those committees were funded and are going to meet and we need to look at what they are doing. We need to allocate funds to get to Helena.

Alexandra Volkerts MAP is following and that some of the meetings are going to be done by teleconference and this could perhaps be opened up for attendance by members of the WSAA.

Brenda Desmond stated the mental health court is following the interim committees and you can get on the list. She believes the meetings could be attended in the "networked" rooms. The address is www.leg.mt.gov

Dan Ladd reports that Strategic plan was very well written and the long range plan needs to come from this document.

Michelle summarized that during Summit meeting these thoughts need to be brought up. We need to continue to speak to the legislature in one voice to legislature.

Dan Ladd stated forget about the pocket of money but what do you want it to look like. Once you have done that, AMDD will form the final plan.

The Summit is an open meeting and WSAA has 4 votes. Anyone can attend. The meeting is July 20th in Bozeman.

Marty Onishuk stated she didn't think the WSAA should or could pay for everyone but only the 4 voting board members although anyone else could spend the money out of pocket.

Nominating Committee Report- Alyce Anderson reports this has been an unsuccessful endeavor. They have not been able to find a replacement for Tom Bartlett. Michelle has respectfully declined, and Marty Onishuk has declined Patrick Wayne is currently not a Board member but is interested in the future. Courtney Collier Rudbach from Pathways declined. Charles Baker has offered. Marty Onishuk reminded him that he needs to take care of himself first and foremost.

What Future Board Members Are Needed? Michelle said we need to be aware if Board member term is up on the LAC level. Anyone that is interested should approach the nominating committee. Alexandra Volkerts stated we need to be aware of those whose terms will expire this year and will need to be re-elected. She reviewed the list. This comes through the LAC. The terms for replacing Board members was reviewed.

Marty Onishuk reports there are a possible 19 openings available. Three meetings missed without reason your seat may be reopened depending on circumstances.

Charles Baker stated that there were some Board members open for LACs as they are developed.

Dan Ladd advised we could increase our Board members. The Chairman's job is a facilitation position. Dan Morehead has received recognition state wide in current endeavor. (Attempting to solve psychiatrist shortage) Patrick

Wayne is new and has been active.

Alexandra Volkerts stated the way the Board is set up it should be primarily consumers when possible. No problems with nominations at any time if we have persons who are active and interested. LAC seats could be filled by consumers at any time. Otherwise we need to look at other stakeholders. Charles Baker advised that if other areas are interested they should be able to come on board.

Alyce Anderson will look at seats available and nominating committee will take this on.

Mary Jane Fox advised that Anaconda, Superior and Thompson Falls have expressed interest in starting LACs. We need to have list clarified. Alexis is going to update list.

Marty Onishuk reminded that Board Members must be elected from Congress even though officers are elected by the Board.

Alexandra Volkerts advised that the Board can fill vacancies until term is completed and then must be elected from the Congress.

Dan Ladd advised if by-laws are hindering process the by-laws need to be changed if necessary. Policy and procedures are being discussed and Dan feels we need to talk about programs and move forward.

Michelle will bring back to Tom information regarding the process problem.

CIT Training – Sheriff Mike McMeekin was unable to attend. Marty Onishuk reviewed that Sheriff McMeekin has been working wisely but exposing personal to the Crisis Intervention Training meetings and the officers themselves found it helpful and they are encouraging other officers to take this training. He had talked about having in-service to get more training. He came to the LAC meeting with interesting problems. They have found that many times they pick someone up and didn't have history so they didn't know if they had mental illness. Could people voluntarily carry card to advice or bracelets etc. The LAC is discussing this. Most people would rather have a phone number or agency number if there is an issue. Anyone with ideas could talk to Marty Onishuk. She feels if the Sheriff can not be here if he could send a substitute as it is important that Law

Enforcement be an active participant. Local police are also having involvement. The Sheriff would like to see all officers trained. Paul advised that the newly hired officers will be receiving officer training and a mental health component has been added. Law enforcement has stepped up to the plate.

Kelli Sather, Office of Public Defender advised that Nevada and California have systems to identify mental health recipients and then that person would be taken to hospital as opposed to jail.

Jackie Finley: Butte has seven trained officers that have received CIT training. Michelle advised the LAC just had appreciation meeting for the officers. Dan Ladd advised this is going on across the State and has made a big difference.

Alyce Anderson demonstrated the Vile of Life bottle which gives all health information, medications, who to contact etc. It comes with sticker in window. And this can be carried in your purse or with medications. This is sponsored by an organization in Kalispell.

Charles Baker advised Tom is looking into an organization which is called the Network of Care. Michelle advised to invite them to LAC and get them involved and this creates education process.

Consumer Quality Control Reviews – Paul Meyer stated one of the requirements by the State is an annual consumer survey. The mental health center has struggled to find a way to make it valuable tool. This is more difficult in community as not everyone can or will speak their mind. The Mental health center wants to make this more meaningful. Completing and sending back to the state has not been helpful. The goal is to have the consumer be able to develop feedback and what is working and what is not working. The professionals need to hear this specifically.

Charles Baker is going to have consumer community meeting with what is working and what is not and so there is less pressure before the BOV. He feels the current process is not in the consumers' favor but the providers. He feels the process should be consumer driven.

Courtney Collier Rudbach advised that as a provider what has helped is

changing the question to “what is your quality of life.” When the consumer is asked that - it creates a better dialog. It helps the provider to know what they could do better.

Paul advised that the paradigm is shifting and everyone is interested in providing better care. Michelle advised that this is an education issue. One of the things they are doing in Butte is Vicki Stahl is doing an over view on WRAP before the WRAP process.

Dan advised the process needs to be solution focused as opposed to problem driven.

Brooke Jaqueth, Summit ILC Msla LAC advised that perhaps having consumers assist consumer do the surveys would be a better solution. Alyce Anderson would like to say that this problem is different from community to community. After LAC did the crisis intervention everyone came to the table and voiced their opinions, the communication between everyone has improved the situation in Libby. It is not perfect but much improved. The Ombudsman can also help with this problem. Information needed is what consumers need and want and what providers need to meet these needs.

Michelle stated one thing; do not to tell a provider they don't know what they doing because providers are trying. To be most effective, respect what people at the table do know. The solution needs to be everyone contributing. When we try something and it doesn't work for us we tend to fall back on what we know did work.

Barbara Mueske, AWARE is interested in a consumer satisfaction survey and perhaps CALM could participate in developing a survey.

Patrick Wayne wanted to know type of survey.

Paul Meyer stated the professional needs to know what is helpful towards recovery and what has not been helpful in order to work towards consumer needs. We meet people at all different levels of needing help. The system can be very directive with someone in Crisis state and when they start to recover then they can indicate what they need to keep going.

WRAP training needs to be built into all the programs.

Marty Onishuk states that family members are not included or involved in consumer reviews. NAMI feels family needs to be recognized and included in the process.

Charles Baker state two things can address Marty's concern. At a LAC presentation KMA came to table to present. He doesn't know when the appropriate time to bring issues. Charles wants not just an open organization but transparent. He feels with transparency this that would inspire more confidence. He also stated having family members sit on grievance committees.

Alexandra Volkerts has strongly stated using consumers as quality control mechanism gives good objective as it then this is not be closed system. Gary Mihelish has system to look at how to do this.

Melanie Mason- Missoula stated the grievance information lists advocacy groups and Gene Hair is listed on the policy. There are issues to consider. She questions that having consumers sit on the committee could violate confidentiality issues but consumer advocates could be included.

SAA Summit July 20th Who Needs a Room?-Michelle would like to know who would like go. A list will be sent around and then follow up can be made-Marti is interested in going. Mary Jane Fox advised this is a small working group. When there are too many people, it gets bogged down.

Marty Onishuk advised that the 4 officers be paid for by WSAA. Second to the motion was made by Paul Meyers. Five members voted yes to pay for other members. Three voted against and there was 1 abstaining.

Dan Morehead asked for clarification regarding attendance of 4 was due to budgetary issues. Paul advised that each SAA would get 4 votes so that whatever area has the most people attending would not dilute vote. Michelle advised that she feels Charles Baker would be integral part as he is the webmaster for all three SAAs.

Mary Jane Fox pointed out that the Summit was meant to get a lot of work done in short period of time and the 4 members represent the consumers and providers from their respective WSAA's who have received direction from their local LACs .

What New Priorities Do We Need To Focus On?-moved to Congress section.

It was moved and seconded and approved to adjourn for lunch.

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be Wednesday July 18th, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at St. Patrick Hospital, Broadway Annex Conference Room 1 - Missoula, MT