



MENTAL HEALTH LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes – October 21, 2019

Welcome and Introductions: Ms. Hume called the meeting to order, calling for introductions around the room.

Approval of Minutes for August 12, 2019 and September 9, 2019: Shirley Kaufman moved to approve minutes, Chelsey Pengra seconds the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Old Business

Attendance has been dropping off a little bit. Chelsey thinks the Board can decide a month or two before a meeting if the agenda is weak to meet or not. Technically we could do that for December's meeting. Bree asked for thoughts or questions. Better communication between committee members to share ideas. Build structure into the time. Edward asked, what is the process? Should ideas be tabled or do they have the ability to bring ideas to the committee? Things don't need to go through Bree to go to the committee.

New Business

Shirley Kaufman announced that CSAA finally received funding of \$25,000. The Board should apply for mini-grants to receive some of these funds. There has been no funding from the CSAA coming into Gallatin County, no grants have been submitted. Funding is based on projects. Next month's meeting plan on discussing what we want to get done in the next year. There was discussion on the fiscal year and Commissioner Skinner does not think that the Board needs to switch from the State Fiscal Year. The Board needs to bring more things to the Committees so they have more to work on. Committees can meet when they have things to work on. Once a committee meets please send the minutes as soon as possible.

Ms. Hume asked for thoughts on creating a newsletter to let the public know what the LAC is working on, and possibly dispersing this information to the four different service authorities across the state. This would be a quarterly committee and come before the LAC for approval. Matt Kelley asked, who is the audience for the newsletter, the community and legislature? Andrea suggested if we could use a mini grant to pay someone to prepare a newsletter. Shirley suggested to set up a separate link for information on programs coming up, working on or hope to accomplish. Bree thought that a link could be set up and maintained. Tom Peluso would not support hiring anyone, he thinks it should be an unpaid position. Andrea suggested a Facebook page. Rick Gale's experience is that people don't read beyond a paragraph. There is a tool that is called Constant Contact and it is \$168.00 a year.

Matt Kelley thinks a newsletter should be a tool and function. Tom Peluso expressed that we need a plan. Bree acknowledged that Rick is going to send the Constant Contact information and also acknowledged Matt's suggestion that we communicated only if we have something important to communicate. Rick likes that idea. No Motion was needed.

Man Therapy Campaign has been tabled until November. There was talk about the Veteran's website and suicide prevention efforts. Bree asked if we want to vote on a mini grant for CSSA? They are going to wait for Danica for more specifics.

The Legislative Interim Committees are in between sessions. Do we want to do a Legislative luncheon? Thoughts? Commissioner Skinner thought it would be beneficial to plan something very good for October next year when people are campaigning and the Board could ask how they plan to do things if elected during the November 2020 Legislature elections. Tom Peluso thinks a lot of ground work needs to be done. The Board decided to move to table until a more appropriate time.

Motion to move monthly meetings to the third Monday. Tom Peluso moves and Commissioner Skinner seconds. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Bree wants to wait to decide at November's meeting to move December's meeting.

Reports

Edward Sypinski wants to look to develop and design Communities that Care. Chairs can look at the data and issues that are being conflicted by our youth. One idea was to create a community board. Contact Edward Sypinski is the contact for Communities that Care. There are 126 high school kids that are on the streets. It is an issue that needs to be raised. What can the LAC do with the youth mental health issues. Edward will send information to Bree. Matt asked if we have a children and families committee. Edward is not a voting member and it would be good to have a voting member on Communities that Care.

Tom Peluso suggests that he would like to have an agenda considered based on the needs we have in this community. He would like to establish a new vision because he thinks we have lost it. Vickie Groeneweg would be a terrific resource for what the hospital has been doing for the community. The hospital has a mental health center that has been doing crisis work.

Bree wants to emphasize to the group to come next month with ideas that we want implemented. Bring big or small ideas so the Board can start doing things. If there is more information that Bree can get to anyone to identify the need, please contact Bree.

Announcements

November 10th – Staying Sober through the Holidays (Dezei Rochin)

Hiring Pact Team 12 individuals. Required positions – 2 nurses, 12 therapist (Ryan Mattson)

Youth Case Manager Position available at Western Mt MHC (Amanda Fahlstrom)

Bridger Care is hiring a Social Worker for needs of women that are homeless.

Next Meeting: November 18, 2019