MHC/CPAW Capital Facilities Workgroup Meeting

Date: September 24, 2009, 3pm-5pm
Location: Mental Health Consumer Concerns (MHCC):
2975 Treat Blvd., Bldg. C Concord, CA 94518

Minutes – Approved 10/5/09

1. CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS

The workgroup meeting was called to order at 3pm by Chairperson Teresa Pasquini.

Mental Health Commissioners Present:

Dave Kahler, District IV
Colette O'Keefe, MD District IV
Annis Pereyra, District II
Teresa Pasquini, District I -Chair

Attendees:

Sherry Bradley, CCMH
Cindy Downing, CCMH
Susan Medlin, Office for Consumer Empowerment

Consolidated Planning Advisory Workgroup Members Present:

Brenda Crawford, MHCC

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Pasquini read an email received from Kathi McLaughlin as a public comment. Kathi volunteered to join the Workgroup as a CPAW member, but was unable to attend the meeting. Her comment included her availability and raised concerns over lack of proper meeting notice, exclusion of Mental Health Staff from meetings, and double-booking CPAW committee meetings.

- Chairperson Pasquini explained there was preparatory meeting on Sept. 17th in addition to a number of emails exchanged between Sherry Bradley, Julie Freestone and Chairperson Pasquini around coordinating the meeting, and she felt comfortable having the workgroup meeting. The Commission has previously held workgroup meetings without posting, but would like to have further discussion on the matter when Dorothy Sansoe was present to offer further clarification.
- Annis explained that she had made a comment during the Sept. 17th CPAW meeting about MHA presence at meetings, and it was urging consideration be given to the careful use of County staff time. The message Sherry heard expressed at the Sept. 17th CPAW meeting was not that MHA 'wasn't invited', but that CPAW was interested in using MHA time wisely.
- There was an overlap between the MHC/CPAW Cap. Fac. Workgroup meeting and the CPAW Communications Advisory Committee meeting due to individuals being out

of the office and personal emergencies. Effort will be made to avoid double booking in the future, in order to maximize CPAW member participation.

Brenda asked that everyone assume noble intentions of each other, and leave prior personal issues aside. She emphasized the urgency of the work that all have come together to accomplish and reminded everyone that people are dying.

Chairperson Pasquini read her report suggesting the workgroup study the DMH Guidelines, other counties planning processes and proposals, and look at inpatient and outpatient services. She also asked that the Technology portion of these funds be discussed. She asked the group to work 'hard and fast, but not at the risk of rubber stamping anything'

-Sherry explained that a robust electronic medical records system would cost around $5 million. Currently, the Capital Facilities & Information Technology (IT) Component Plan, totaling $10.2million, is divided into $8.2 million for Capital Facilities and $2 million for IT

3. AGREE ON CHARGE

- **RECOMMENDATION:** Those present unanimously recommended the following charge for the Capital Facilities Workgroup, "For MHC Capital Facilities workgroup members and CPAW members (up to 4) to review options and alternatives (including the 20 Allen site as one option) for Capital Facilities and technology needs for mental health services in Contra Costa County with an open mind/no pre-conceived ideas. Those options would be brought back to the full Commission for their recommendations to MHA and BOS."

4. AGREE ON OUTCOME OF THE PROCESS INCLUDING PERSONAL OUTCOMES

A. MACRO OUTCOMES:

After listening to the Workgroup views about the lack of participation and transparency in the 20 Allen Project planning process, Sherry offered a suggestion that the workgroup 'step back and look at a bigger picture view". She suggested that since there have been some questions about the existing data (i.e. the 'focus' of recent focus groups & community forums), that perhaps it is a good time to survey consumers/family members about Capital Facility needs overall.

B. MICRO OUTCOMES:

Personal Goals

-Dave Kahler wants to see the Workgroup present a strong and definitive 'Yes or No' recommendation on the 20 Allen project to the Mental Health Commission at their next meeting.

-Brenda Crawford wants to consider services, not so much the physical location. The model is important and emphasis should be on impact and transformation. She does not want the group to be driven by any synthetic Dec. 31st deadline (for the property at

20 Allen Street). Sherry offered further clarification on a point that Mental Health Director Donna Wigand made at the Sept. 17th CPAW meeting - unlike Community Services & Supports (CSS) money, no interest is lost for the County if Capital Facilities & IT funds cannot be drawn down from the state without an approved project..

-Collette O'Keefe sees the issue of accessibility of any Capital Facilities project to be paramount.

5. & 6. DECIDE ON THE REQUIRED STEPS & REVIEW OF THE QUESTIONS

Issues/Needs identified:

- Program planning: ex. Smoking at facilities
- Possibility of having multiple facility locations
- Transportation/accessibility
- Levels of Care: Need Adult Services Medical Director, Dr. Johanna Ferman's input.
- Psychiatric patients entering Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (CCRMC) through Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES) vs. through Emergency Room (ER). Why does medical screening need to happen first? Sherry mentioned reimbursement rates may be a factor in the decision on entering through PES vs. ER.

➢ **RECOMMENDATION:** Capital Facilities Workgroup recommends that a full needs assessment be conducted in the form of survey to be mailed to consumers, family members, and mental health providers, and be made available at the clinics, which will include questions on capital facilities and information technology and analysis of which will be broken down based on age group.

7. AGREE ON A TIMELINE:

Most of group shared Brenda's sentiment that the Dec. 31st deadline to acquire the property at 20 Allen Street not be the guide in determining a timeline for the workgroup. Dave Kahler pointed out that December 31st is a tangible deadline that they should keep in consideration if the group is interested in pursuing the 20 Allen Street Project in any way. He felt there are real advantages that come with property's close proximity to CCRMC, and these advantages cannot be duplicated at any other location.

There was an agreement that while no timeline was specifically outlined, a timeline should be created and work the Capital Facilities Workgroup does should be thorough yet expedient.

8. NEXT STEPS/NEXT MEETING:

Sherry would work with MHA staff and present a draft of a needs assessment survey prior to October 5th.

A standing meeting date will be agreed upon after further discussion about proper posting is had, and decisions are reached. The group deems it necessary to meet frequently, weekly if possible, in order to maximize their productivity.

Next Meeting will be: Monday, October 5th from 6:30pm – 8:30pm and Brenda agreed to host the meeting again at MHCC: 2975 Treat Blvd., Bldg. C Concord, CA 94518

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Dave Kahler, who attended the meeting as a member of the public, reiterated his belief that the Workgroup should present a concrete decision for or against the 20 Allen Project Proposal, and restated the benefits of the property's geographic location – if the issue of transportation/accessibility was able to be adequately addressed.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Pasquini.