

Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission  
 December 11, 2007  
 (Rescheduled from November 29)

<p><b>1. Call to Order/ Introductions</b></p>	<p>The meeting was called to order by Co-Chairperson Kathi McLaughlin at 4:35 pm.</p> <p><b>Commissioners</b>          Bobbie Arnold, District I          Craig Fletcher, District IV          Dave Kahler, District IV          Judy McCahon, District III          Kathi McLaughlin, District II, Co-Chair          Cynthia Miller, District II          Teresa Pasquini, District I          Bettye Randle, District I          Scott Singley, District III          Karen Sloma, District IV, Co-Chair</p> <p><b>Guests</b>          Johanna Ferman, M.D., <i>MHD</i>          Ednah Friedman, <i>Conservatorship</i>          John Gragnani, <i>Mental Health &amp; PEU Local 1</i>          Gloria Hill, <i>Mental Health Administration</i>          Mariana Moore, <i>Contractor's Alliance</i>          Harold Parsley, <i>Alcohol &amp; Other Drugs Advisory Board</i>          Julie Peck, <i>EHSD Aging &amp; Adult Services</i>          Herb Putnam, <i>Clubhouse, NAMI-CC-MH Advocate-CISC</i> Dorothy Sansoe, <i>CAO's Office</i>          Karen Shuler, <i>MHC Executive Assistant</i>          Connie Steers, <i>Patients' Rights</i>          Eric Svenonius, <i>Recording Secretary</i>          Donna Wigand, <i>Mental Health Director</i>          Janet Marshall Wilson, <i>Mental Health Consumer Concerns</i></p>	<p>Commissioners          Absent:          Jacque McLaughlin</p> <p>BOS Reps. Absent:          Supv. Glover          Supv. Bonilla (Alt.)</p>
<p><b>2. Public Comment</b></p>	<p>On behalf of the Alcohol and Other Drug Advisory Board, Harold Parsley expressed appreciation to the Commission for honoring the work the AOD Board has been doing for older adults.</p>	
<p><b>3. Announcements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mental Health Consumer Concerns is holding its annual Holiday Party at the Pleasant Hill Community Center December 19.</li> <li>• John Gragnani said that in regards to the Prevention and Early Intervention portion of Mental Health Services Act, there is a need for someone on the Mental Health Commission to be represented on the stakeholders planning selection group in January.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4. Approval of Minutes</b></p>	<p>A motion was made to approve the minutes from October 25. No discussion. Carried.</p> <p>A motion was made to approve the minutes from November 5.</p>	<p><b>M- Sloma</b>  <b>S-McCahon</b>          Carried with 1 abstention.</p>

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	Approved as corrected.	<b>M- Kahler S-Miller</b> Carried with 2 abstentions.
<b>5. Election of Officers</b>	<p>Teresa Pasquini removed her name from consideration for Vice Chairperson.          The voting result for Dave Kahler for Chairperson was 5 “Yes” and 5 “No.”</p> <p>The voting result for Kathi McLaughlin and Karen Sloma as Co-Chairpersons was 5 “Yes” and 5 “No.”</p> <p>Vote for Scott Singley as Vice Chairperson</p> <p>There was no majority vote for Chairperson. According to County Counsel, incumbent Co-Chairs Kathi McLaughlin and Karen Sloma will remain in office until another vote at the next Commission meeting, January 24, 2008. Incumbent Vice Chair Scott Singley was approved as the 2008 Vice Chair of the Commission.</p>	<p>Not carried. 5-5-0.          B. Arnold, Yes          C. Fletcher, Yes          D. Kahler, Yes          J. McCahon, No          K. McLaughlin, No          C. Miller, No          T. Pasquini, Yes          B. Randle, Yes          S. Singley, No          K. Sloma, No</p> <p>Not carried. 5-5-0.          B. Arnold, No          C. Fletcher, No          D. Kahler, No          J. McCahon, Yes          K. McLaughlin, Yes          C. Miller, Yes          T. Pasquini, No          B. Randle, No          S. Singley, Yes          K. Sloma, Yes</p> <p>Carried. 8-0-2.          B. Arnold, Yes          C. Fletcher, Abstain          D. Kahler, Yes          J. McCahon, Yes          K. McLaughlin, Yes          C. Miller, Yes          T. Pasquini, Yes          B. Randle, Abstain          S. Singley, Yes          K. Sloma, Yes</p>
<b>6. Discussion of Commission’s Response to Brown Act Violation(s) ISerial</b>	Karen Sloma said that when Dave Kahler wrote an e-mail claiming he knew there were seven votes, the only way he could have known this information was to have held serial meetings to obtain concurrence. Dave responded that he did not call around and ask, he simply knew there would be seven votes. He also mentioned that the Commission's preoccupation with minutiae is damaging to the Commission.	

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<p><b>Meetings] as related to election of officers.</b></p>	<p>Karen Sloma asked if the Commission should follow the Brown Act, stating the purpose of the Brown Act is to allow the public to discuss items on the agenda. When Commissioners are perceived to have been in violation, is the Commission to ask for a written opinion from the County Council's office?</p> <p>Bettye Randle asked how many serial meetings were there regarding Bobbie Arnold's resignation listed (and subsequently removed) from the Board of Supervisors' Agenda of November 6, 2007. Co-Chair Karen Sloma and Executive Assistant Karen Shuler responded there were no serial meetings, and that any action taken or contemplated by Supervisor Gioia's office was done independently. In response to Bettye's questioning who the person was that the Co-Chairs were going to for guidance (regarding postponement and rescheduling of the November Commission meeting), Dorothy Sansoe from the CAO's office said she provides guidance and advice should someone require that. Bettye responded that she did not know Dorothy Sansoe and had not seen her at meetings of the Commission. Dorothy Sansoe replied that she had attended several meetings of the Commission representing the CAO's office (NB. Substantiated by attendance sign in sheets)</p> <p>Bettye Randle made a motion to refer to County Council's Office for a written determination regarding serial meetings in that Dave had serial meetings to ensure concurrence and to determine he had seven votes and the co-chairs had serial meetings regarding the situation with Bobbie and her position on the Commission.</p>	<p><b>M-Randle S-Arnold</b>        Carried. 6-3-1.        B. Arnold, Yes        C. Fletcher, No        D. Kahler, No        J. McCahon, Yes        K. McLaughlin, Yes        C. Miller, Abstain        T. Pasquini, No        B. Randle, Yes        S. Singley, Yes        K. Sloma, Yes</p>
<p><b>7. Discussion of Commission's Response to Co-Chairs' Rescheduling of November 29, 2007 Commission Meeting.</b></p>	<p>Kathi said she was unsure whether there would have been a quorum and that she did not want to discuss three important issues without both chairs and another member missing. The meeting was postponed, not canceled. Dave said there would have been a quorum and phone calls were warranted.</p> <p>Teresa feels there was a serious commitment problem because the Bylaws state the Vice Chairperson takes over when the co-chairpersons are unable to attend.</p> <p>Dave made a motion that when the Chairs wants to postpone or cancel a meeting due to lack of quorum, that each member of the Commission be called and individual names be gathered to determine who will be able to attend.</p>	<p><b>M- Dave Kahler S- Judy McCahon</b>        Carried 8-2-0.        B. Arnold, Yes        C. Fletcher, Yes        D. Kahler, Yes        J. McCahon, Yes        K. McLaughlin, No        C. Miller, Yes        T. Pasquini, Yes        B. Randle, Yes        S. Singley, Yes        K. Sloma, No</p>
<p><b>8. Co-Chair's Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome the new members Craig Fletcher and Jacque McLaughlin.</li> </ul> <p>Craig Fletcher, District IV, was welcomed. The other new appointee, Jacque McLaughlin, District II, was unable to attend due to a work commitment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Announcement regarding request for a report from Dr. Jeff Smith.</li> </ul> <p>Karen Sloma said that at the November 5th meeting. Dr. Smith said he</p>	

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	<p>would make himself available to the Commission. However, there has been recent communication from Health Services Director Dr. William Walker stating Dr. Smith will not be coming to the meetings, but committee members could go meet with Dr. Smith at the hospital. Dr. Walker will be coming to the Commission meetings on a regular basis. He will be at the January meeting.</p> <p>Kathi and Teresa both feel they need to discuss the logistics of the committee meetings with Dr. Smith prior to meeting with him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting of the Family and Human Services Committee on Monday was announced. Of special interest is a report on elder abuse. When available, the EHSD Report will be forwarded to the Commission.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>9. Mental Health Director's Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on Prevention &amp; Early Intervention.        Kimberly Mayer handed out four documents, an Overview of State Guidelines, the State's Definitions of "Populations at Risk," The Planning Process, and the Application to be a Stakeholder. She said Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) is the state's attempt to prevent mental health problems from occurring in the population. There will be about 40 stakeholders broken into two groups covering ages 0-26 and 26+. The deadline to turn in the stakeholder application is the 28th. They will be selecting the stakeholders in January. They have to have consumers, providers, education, and law enforcement. They will be doing three community forums February 5,12, and 13. They will come up with plans, budgets, and will hope to have all these things set up by August. All this information, including the documents, can be found at <a href="http://www.cchealth.org">www.cchealth.org</a>.</li> <li>• Report on External Quality Review Organization        EQRO goes to each county every two years, but they have come to Contra Costa twice in one year. One of the problems highlighted during their last visit was the county information system. The county had been working with a vendor but the vendor was not able to fulfill promises made having to do with the billing and claiming system, so they had to go back to square one.        West County:        Several vehicles have been stolen from the 41<sup>st</sup> Street Children's Clinic. A neighborhood watch program by the 25<sup>th</sup> Street Richmond clinic complained about illegal activities in the parking lot after hours. A request had already been made for rolling gates and security cameras at both locations.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>10. Conservator Report</b></p>	<p>Ednah Friedman presented a written report on the history of the conservatorship program, and added her personal statement. In 1997 they had 429 cases, in 2007 they have 765 with less staff. She encouraged the Commission members to personally contact their supervisors and ask for long term staff to prevent needless suffering. Donna said the conservator programs are grossly underfunded.</p>	

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	<p>Janet Marshall Wilson handed out an article explaining the purpose of conservatorship and the rights a consumer can lose.        Teresa made a motion that this Commission elect someone to make a statement to the Family and Human Services Committee of the Board of Supervisors' meeting on Monday that the staffing at the conservatorship program be funded properly and filled at the very least, if not enhanced, but not at the expense of other mental health programs. The motion was carried and Teresa was asked to make a statement from the Commission at the meeting.        Donna said the county has to provide the resources and make the commitment to support this program.</p>	<p><b>M-Pasquini.</b>  <b>S-Arnold</b>        Carried unanimously.</p>
<p><b>11. Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Older Adult Committee.</b>        No action items were forwarded to the Commission.  <b>Adult &amp; Transitional Age Youth Committee.</b>        Entertain a motion to approve the draft of a letter to Bissell Cottages (follow-up on the site visit).        Teresa said her Bissell Cottages Report sparked a fire with GRIP and suggested it be addressed at the January MHC meeting.  <b>Children's Committee.</b>        Kathi, as the Children's Committee Chairperson, made a motion to send a letter to Lionel Chatman, Donna Wigand, Judge Haight and the Juvenile Justice Committee, with a copy to the Board of Supervisors, commending probation and Mental Health for their collaborative efforts surrounding the multisystemic therapy program.        A motion was made to send a letter to Lionel Chatman and Judge Haight, with a copy to the Board of Supervisors and Juvenile Justice Committee, suggesting public oversight related to SB81 and encouraging them to include the community in oversight of the program.        Entertain a motion to approve the use of "The Contra Costa Mental Health Commission" name on the letterhead for the "2008 Children's Summit" scheduled for January 29, 2008.  <b>Justice System Committee.</b>        No action items were forwarded to the Commission.  <b>Executive Committee.</b>        Status of Vacancies:        District III – Consumer Representative        District V – Consumer Representative, Family Member, Member-at-Large.</p>	<p><i>Place on the January MHC Agenda.</i></p> <p><b>M-McLaughlin</b>  <b>S-McCahon</b>        Carried with 2 abstentions.</p> <p><b>M-McLaughlin</b>  <b>S-Miller</b>        Carried with 1 abstention.</p> <p><b>M-McLaughlin</b>  <b>S-Sloma</b>        Carried with 1 abstention</p>
<p><b>12. 2007 Annual Report</b></p>	<p>Entertain a motion to approve the Mental Health Commission's 2007 Annual Report and forward it to the Board of Supervisors.        Carried. Report will be forwarded with the recommend change (adding information about the Law Enforcement Referral Card).</p>	<p><b>M-Singley</b>  <b>S-McCahon</b></p> <p>Carried. 9-0-1        B. Arnold, Yes        C. Fletcher, Abstain</p>

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		D. Kahler, Yes J. McCahon, Yes K. McLaughlin, Yes C. Miller, Yes T. Pasquini, Yes B. Randle, Yes S. Singley, Yes K. Sloma, Yes
<b>13. Future Agenda Items</b>	A. Doug Stewart, Vice President of the Pacheco Town Council will introduce himself and report on his outreach to the homeless. B. William Walker, MD, Health Services Director, will report on the Crisis Stabilization Unit, including the staffing issues. C. Victor Montoya, Adult Mental Health Program Chief, will discuss conservatorship. D. The Elections for 2008 Chairperson(s) will be held. E. The Bissell Cottages Site Visit Report will be voted on.	
<b>14. Adjournment</b>	Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.	

Respectfully submitted,  
 Karen Shuler, Executive Assistant  
 Contra Costa Mental Health Commission

Eric Svenonius, Recording Secretary