

708 GENEVA COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2022 7:00 P.M.
109 James Street
Geneva, Illinois

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Shogren called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Present: Fintzen, Gabriel, Gaines, Hamilton, Kautz, Shogren, Wagner

Absent: None

Also Present: Members from Ecker Center as Guest Speakers

2. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None

3. OMNIBUS AGENDA (OMNIBUS VOTE)

All items listed with an asterisk (*) are considered to be routine by the Mental Health Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a board member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Omnibus (Consent) Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the Regular Agenda.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, PAYMENTS

*A. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2022

*B. Approve Payment to Recording Secretary for Services

Motion to approve by Kautz second by Wagner

Voice Vote Aye: 7 No: 0

Motion Carries

5. Guest Speakers:

From Ecker Center of Behavioral Health, CEO, Daphne Sandouka, Clinical Director-Mental Health, Nisha Shah and Clinical Director-Substance Use, Jim Brunetti

Chair Shogren introduced guest speakers and gave the board opportunity to introduce themselves to the guests from Ecker Center.

Jim Brunetti discussed substance abuse as a pandemic within a pandemic. In 2020 there were 96,000 deaths due to overdose. This number is up from 70,000 in 2019. Mr. Brunetti further discussed their treatment plans. Other services include DUI services, gambling services, contracts with Kane County probation and drug court, and medication assisted treatment services with Suboxone and Vivitrol assistance.

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Ecker Center also does Narcan training and ride along services with the Elgin Police Department. They work with U-46 schools in alcohol and drug abuse programs. They have HIV services in two counties. Ecker Center also works with District 303 (St. Charles) through Parent University programs. Ecker Center holds open SMART recovery groups on Wednesday night in St. Charles. They have AA meetings at their 2 American Way address (Elgin).

Rick Gabriel asked number of patient visits per year, all inclusive of diagnostics & treatment services for citizens in Geneva. Mr. Brunetti cites that currently there are about 100 coming to them for services. Ms. Sandouka further stated that some of their work is when they go out into the community or through anonymous attendance at open community meetings, so it is difficult to get accurate numbers. Mr. Brunetti discussed the sliding fee scale they offer.

Christine Kautz asked about the Narcan program with the Elgin Police Department and if the Ecker Center actually goes out to the homes of individuals or if they are supplying the police department. Mr. Brunetti states they go out to their homes with the police and give extra Narcan to the family to have in the event of future overdose.

Ms. Shogren asked if walk in services are available and if there is a wait list. Ms. Shah states it can be walk in based on client needs. The intake process is usually about a week. People in need of psychiatry services will be triaged for needs assessed and prioritized accordingly. Ms. Sandouka also added that the Geneva 708 Mental Health Board is recognized for their funding and Geneva residents receive preference.

Rick Gabriel asked about an on-site pharmacy.
Ms. Shah stated the Genoa pharmacy is on site in their facility.

Christine Kautz asked for clarification for the substance abuse versus the mental health intake processes. Ms. Shah further described the intake process, highlighting that substance abuse and mental health often coexist so intake begins as one point of entry.

Connie Wagner asked if Ecker Center offers behavioral health management of any type. Ms. Shah said they do review all aspects for the individual coming in through intake.

Ms. Shah further described services in Mental health: Outpatient therapy services including locations in Elgin, Streamwood and St. Charles including a myriad of evidence-based services. Crisis services are offered by Ecker Center at Sherman Hospital through the Emergency Department. Ms. Shah referenced a grant they received to allow them to do more mobile crisis services work. The idea is to provide de-escalation services going out to meet people where they are. They are currently working to build out those teams. Ecker Center also offers residential homes including 24 hours of care through HUD housing. Those programs do have some waitlisting involved.

Chair Shogren thanked the team for the thorough presentation and description of services available.

Jean Gaines asked if Renz still had locations or if they are fully blended. Mr. Brunetti states they are blended services.

Christine Kautz asked about staffing shortages like many providers are experiencing. Ms. Sandouka stated that it is an area of focus for them this year, to recruit and hire.

Members from Ecker Center left the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Connie Wagner discussed the services offered through the Geneva Police Department with AID that are in place currently, as compared to what was discussed by Ecker Center that they offer in Elgin currently with the ride along services. Round table discussion of the crisis intervention services available in Geneva currently through the AID contract with Geneva PD.

Chair Shogren discussed the various brochures sent from Ecker Center of approximately 15 individual topics of services parsed out into individual brochure.

6. Chairperson's Report

Chair Shogren called attention to their contact information sheet asking all board members to verify information is correct. Sue Fintzen will need to be added to the contact information sheet. Jean Gaines stated her address needs to be changed. Chair Shogren will forward updated information.

Chair Shogren discussed a Zoom call that she attended with Sue Fintzen and AID discussing the types of calls received through the contract with the Geneva Police Department. The level of detail that was kept left Chair Shogren with a firm belief that

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this is a valuable service being offered to the community based on the level of accuracy displayed in the data.

Chair Shogren discussed a news article about the FVSRA created providing a sensory equipment program. It is an initiative to bring sensory support to the community.

Chair Shogren discussed two opportunities in the Geneva School District offering virtual workshops in partnership with Tri City Family services addressing mental health related issues in these uncertain times.

Chair Shogren discussed the school district's allowance of up to five days unquestioned absence to address mental health for students.

7. **ACMHAI Report:**

A. Legislation Update

Chair Shogren discussed funds from the state being allocated as discovered through ACMHAI reports citing Governor Pritzker's funding plans to support mental health.

Chair Shogren discussed HB 4228 that amends the Community Care for Persons With Developmental Disabilities Act. Chair Shogren passed written information around the table to the board about methods of support for this bill.

8. **New Business**

A. ACMHAI Dues

Chair Shogren shared the invoice for ACMHAI dues for 2022 to be \$500 highlighting the value in ACMHAI service and this rate that is significantly lower than providers.

Chair Shogren asked for a motion to approve the invoice.

Motion to approve by Gabriel second by Hamilton

Voice Vote: Aye: 7 No: 0

Motion carries

Vice Chair Hamilton discussed information available through ACMHAI that members of the 708 Board would be welcome to attend and are mostly online because many people across the state attend. If any board members are interested in any of the topics Vice Chair Hamilton would be happy to connect them.

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Chair Shogren shared that the Geneva 708 Mental Health Board was asked to be the spotlight member this month in the ACMHAI newsletter. Chair Shogren asked for discussion and approval of the questions and answers gathered to be submitted tomorrow, for the month of February. Vice Chair Hamilton recommended it mentioned that Geneva 708 Mental Health is a volunteer board appointed by the Mayor. Another question asked about the types of services provided. Round table discussion to add clarification that the Geneva 708 Mental Health board serves as a funding agency to service providers and do not provide direct services.

B. March Guest Speaker

Chair Shogren asked for suggestions for a guest speaker in March. Sue Fintzen recommended a possibility of an activity including a review of a current service provider application with previous guest speaker Attorney Scott Fintzen. The ideal outcome would provide a “cheat sheet” for reviewing service provider applications and associated supporting documents such as P&L Statements or any other supporting budgetary documents an agency may provide to help board members in their review process for determining funding. Vice Chair Hamilton concurred that an area the board could absolutely use support of this nature is from someone with expertise in review processes for grant writing and grant funding applications. Chair Shogren acknowledged that this proposed option would be to help provide more tools for board members and is *not* intended to take the place of the individual board members’ review or opinions.

Chair Shogren and Sue Fintzen would work as a sub-committee, through an application with Scott, to review the application and devise a draft of important points to create a document to present during the March meeting. This could also serve to further edit the funding application to determine if any changes would make sense after going through this process. Ms. Fintzen and Chair Shogren will bring findings to the Board for the March Meeting.

9. Old Business

A. Review Mission Statement and Strategic Plan. Revise if needed.

Chair Shogren asked if there was any discussion or recommended addition to the Mission Statement and Strategic Plan.

Vice Chair Hamilton discussed the process for arriving at their original strategic plan.

Chair Shogren asked for a motion to approve the Mission Statement and Strategic Plan as discussed which essentially updated the dates on the document.

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Motion by Wagner second by Gaines.

Voice Vote; Aye: 7 No: 0

Motion carries

B. Review Arc of the Year. Revise if needed.

Chair Shogren discussed changes to the Arc of the Year including putting planned activities into the proper months. Personal Processes has typically been done in January. Previously noted February discussion for May Mental Health Month will be moved to March. ACMHAI dues discussion will be moved to February. City Council presentation planning discussion will be moved to October.

Chair Shogren discussed the number of meetings held per year currently is ten. The requirement as a board is that they have a minimum of four. Chair Shogren asked if anyone would prefer, they have less meetings. Roundtable discussion ensued. The number of meetings per year held will remain at ten.

Chair Shogren will bring the changes discussed next month for approval.

Chris Kautz discussed attendance at a Congregational Meeting at Bethlehem Church and the continued funding of Fox River Valley Initiative. Board member Kautz stated she will make a more concerted effort to seek out these meetings.

Chair Shogren announced the McHenry County Mental Health Board hired a new Executive Director, Leonetta Rizzi BSN, MS, MBA who is replacing Scott Block. Scott Block is now working with the IL Supreme Court as the first State Behavioral Health Administrator.

10. **Public Comments, Mail**

Tri City Health partnership sent a January newsletter

ACMHAI sent a monthly newsletter

Suicide Prevention Services sent a monthly newsletter

Thank you letters have been received from: Tri City Family Services, Hands of Hope, Lazarus House, Joshua Tree Community, and AID.

Councilman Dean Kilburg also sent a thank you to the board for the December presentation.

Saturday March 19th will be the Tri City family services gala at the Q Center.

This will be their 32nd annual fundraiser.

11. **Adjournment**

Chair Shogren asked for a motion to adjourn.

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Motion by Kautz second by Fintzen
Voice Vote: Aye: 7 No:0
Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM

All Scheduled Meetings for the 708 Geneva Community Mental Health Board to begin at 7:00 PM unless specifically noted