

708 GENEVA COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES

April 12, 2022 7:00 P.M.
109 James Street
Geneva, Illinois

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Shogren called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM
Present: Fintzen, Gaines, Hamilton, Kautz, Shogren
Absent: Gabriel, Wagner

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 February 8, 2022

*B. Approve Payment to Recording Secretary for Services

Motion to approve by Kautz second by Fintzen

Voice Vote Aye: 4 No: 0 Abstain: 1

Motion carries

5. Chairperson's Report

Chair Shogren shared an overview of several pieces of information received recently via email containing information about current events related to mental health, which; due to the board having met virtually for several previous meetings hadn't been shared. Anyone interested in receiving any of the items discussed, can be forwarded upon request. Specific local discussion regarding GHS' Physical Education department changing their name to Wellness Education Department. This change allows for inclusiveness in mental health, as it is as important as physical wellbeing.

6. ACMHAI Report:

A. Membership Meeting/Springfield April 26/27, 2022

Vice Chair Hamilton discussed a passed budget in Springfield just this morning.

Vice Chair Hamilton cites there is a great deal occurring in mental health, law

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enforcement and corrections in the state, which seems to be an effort to create a structure in these spaces that often work hand in hand.

B. Legislative Updates

Vice Chair Hamilton discussed how efforts to make changes in mental health will have impact in law enforcement and in the criminal justice system, which is why it would seem that they're making efforts to work as a system. Chair Shogren discussed a bill that passed with regard to developmental disabilities.

C. Community Report

Vice Chair Hamilton discussed the Elgin Township Mental Health Board that was formed, but however remains unfunded due to wording of a law surrounding distribution of collected funds through tax levies. This law will find change at the state level due to similar situations experienced in Elgin Township.

7. New Business

A. Share update of Kane County Meeting regarding use of Rescue Plan Funds for Mental Health

The Kane County Committee of the Whole discussed sales tax levies in various counties which can be used to fund mental health. Presentations were made on four areas that would seek funding via tax levies. At this time, it does not seem that it will be moving forward, however may come up in future votes, and possibly as individual items. These topics have been discussed over several monthly county meetings attended by various members of the Geneva 708 Mental Health Board.

B. Share about site visit to HorsePower Therapeutic

Chair Shogren as well as board members Fintzen and Gabriel toured the property of HorsePower Therapeutic in March

Board member Fintzen discussed their visit to HorsePower Therapeutic and their meeting with Carrie Capes the ED and Founder of the organization, as well as the property owners. There was a tour of the property, of the stables where there are over 20 horses, small donkeys, goats, chickens and ducks. There are over 100 volunteers who do a variety of things, some therapeutic riding, some care for the animals on the property. People served include women from Naomi's House in Wheaton, and developmentally disabled individuals. It was remarked by Chair Shogren how incredibly organized Carrie Capes has the program running. The visit lasted approximately two hours and showed strong evidence of grant money very well appropriated. It was also remarked, the respect for both people in their programs as well as the animals on the property and how that respect is used for teachable moments throughout the program.

C. Discuss/Share “take aways” of Scott Fintzen’s Grant presentation and its application to the Grant Application and Suggestions of focus when reviewing Grant applications.

Chair Shogren thanked the Fintzen family as a whole for the amount of pro bono time their family has given to the 708 Mental Health Board. Scott Fintzen, an attorney has helped Chair Shogren and Board Member Sue Fintzen to create a revised City of Geneva 708 Mental Health Board Funding Application for 2022. This application seeks to have applicants give exactly the information the 708 Mental Health Board seeks to understand with regard to funding. Chair Shogren has also accomplished making the application a fillable form. These forms will be emailed to providers who can then email their completed application back to the 708 Mental Health Board Chair.

Board Member Fintzen discussed aspects of their proposed revised 708 Mental Health Board Grant Application by page. Round table discussion about page line items for clarification and understanding. Board Member Hamilton recommended items specify treatment costs columns and non-treatment cost items (item 10 on page 5). Page 5 item 10 column, it was recommended to change Cost Center to read “Reason for Cost.” Board Member Fintzen proceeded in discussing item 13 on page 6 which is where legal help in developing questions on this page was received by Scott Fintzen. This page will help the Board a great deal in vetting agency applicants as 501(c)(3) organizations. It is noted that most questions on this page are directly from the IRS form 990. Round table discussion to amend “How many are independent?” to “How many are employed by your organization?” Best practices of non-profit state 2/3 of a board should *not* be employed by the organization. A couple of typos were noted for correction. Board Member Kautz discussed that some of the questions on this page may serve to help service providers have greater thought in possible future best practices; not that they necessarily have to have an answer for each item listed. Vice Chair Hamilton added to this discussion that an agency having at least some of the items listed will help this board in executing their role of determining best use of funds. Round table discussion on messaging to agency applicants on these changes to the funding application. The letter to agencies which accompanies the application, will include language discussing these changes to the funding application. Several board members thanked Chair Shogren and Board Member Fintzen for their work in revising the funding application.

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Board Member Fintzen continued to discuss some aspects of the proposed new funding application and areas where a copy of a 990 is required, which depends on revenue of an applicant organization.

Vice Chair Hamilton recommended the revised application be presented to the City Manager for review. Chair Shogren will update items discussed and present it to the City Manager for review before it's brought back to discussion by the board for vote and approval.

D. May Mental Health Month Education/Advocacy Ideas

Chair Shogren discussed previous collaboration with Geneva High School. Board Member Fintzen discussed a possible topic for May Mental Health Month in reaching out to local businesses to promote Mental Health Awareness. Some ideas might include decorations in the business, possibly making a "flavor of the month" depending on the type of business. Board Member Gaines shared some thoughts based on her experience with the Chamber of Commerce. It was recommended to approach more than one business as well as City locations, so it was in a few places throughout the city. Roundtable discussion on other ideas for awareness in May.

Chair Shogren will reach out to the contact at the High School to see if commitment for student help is available. Chair Shogren shared the tool kit that is published every year with regard to May Mental Health Month. Chair Shogren will contact the city, School & Library to seek support as discussed. Board Member Gaines will contract Grahams as well as Dodson Place and a contact at the Chronicle to do a story. Board Member Fintzen will contact the County to discuss a tree on the property. The date for decorating these spaces as discussed, is May 1st.

8. **Old Business**

A. Review changes made to Arc of Year Document, vote for approval.
 Chair Shogren asked for a motion.

Motion to approve Arc of Year Document by Gaines second by Hamilton.

Voice Vote: 5 No: 0

Motion Carries

Chair Shogren also passed a new contact list for Board Members.

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10. **Public Comments, Mail**

Chair Shogren shared a thank you note from FVSRC.

Chair Shogren shared a variety of newsletters received. Anyone wanting copies of any of those, are available upon request.

11. **Adjournment**

Chair Shogren asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Hamilton second by Kautz.

Voice Vote Aye: 5 No: 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

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