

MINUTES
APPROVED 10/21/17

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

September 21, 2017

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1400 Emeline Avenue, Santa Cruz, CA

Present: Aimee Escalante, Bek Sebedra, Charlotte Reyes, Hugh McCormick, Jim Roszell, Maria Correia, Jodie Wells; Kate Avraham; Rebekah Mills, Supervisor Greg Caput

Excused Absence: Xaloc Cabanes

Unexcused Absence: None

Motion to approve May 18; June 15; July 20; and August 17, 2017 meeting Minutes by Aimee Escalante; second by Charlotte Reyes

Ayes: Aimee Escalante, Charlotte Reyes, Hugh McCormick, Kathleen Avraham, Jodie Wells, Maria Correia, Greg Caput

Abstain: Bek Sebedra

Absent: Xaloc Cabanes

Introductions and Public Comment:

- Guests discussed **The Million Parent March September 17 – 21, 2017**, a nationwide event. Website: www.millionparentmarch2017.org

Standing Reports:

Board of Supervisors Report - Greg Caput

- Report on film “This Dust of Words: Elizabeth Wiltsee” can be seen on KQED and online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WscwOjGJT8g>
- Next Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors meets on most Tuesdays in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers, 701 Ocean St, Rm. 525. Meetings generally begin at 9:00 am.

Behavioral Health Director's Report – Erik Riera

- Welcomed newest Board member Bek Sebedra
- Key issues we are following in the following areas:
 - AB1250 was a bill introduces in the legislature that would have required Counties to demonstrate a cost/benefit analysis to continued contracts with local non-profits over providing services through the County directly. .
- Move of 2nd Story Program
 - 2nd Story program has moved to its new location in Aptos
 - The community has not been receptive of the program, and has been opposing it.
 - The program was scheduled to expand to serve 8 clients under the grant which funded it, but we are exploring other options.
 - Stigma Discrimination: other providers experiencing similar issues in the community
- How can the MHAB advocate for the needs of our community, its providers, and the individuals and families that we serve?
- Psychiatric recruitment:
 - County continues to participate as a provider under J1 visa program
 - This federal program opens up to candidates 1Xper year, in October

- We worked with the program for the first time last year, and successfully hired 2 Psychiatrists
- We have 2 psychiatrists that we are working with now, who have job offers, and would potentially start next summer.
- Watsonville Behavioral Health office building
 - The contractor for the building has been selected, and the contract is going to the board of supervisors for approval on September 26th.
 - The site work contract will go before the Board of Supervisors for approval in October.
 - Construction will commence soon after.
- Health Services Agency is implementing the “Whole Person Care” program, “Cruz to Health” pilot program of Santa Cruz County.

Sub-committee and Board Member Report

- Maria Correia, Chairperson, announced her resignation from the board citing personal reasons.
- Kate Avraham will write a letter for the Sunday Sentinel for board approval at the October 19, 2017 meeting.

Presentations

- Adrian Bernard, Manager 2nd Story gave an update on programs
- Theresa Comstock, President of the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C), spoke on the role of the Association

Unfinished Business

- Site Committee Report: Site visit committee will be meeting with Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors, report tabled until future date.
- Public Outreach Committee/Community Town Hall update – Jodie Wells reported the event at Twin Lakes Church on Community Mental Health paneling and tabling went very well.

New Business

- Data Notebook 2017 –Board members Aimee Escalante and Charlotte Reyes will be meeting with County staff to review the Data Notebook 2017 with the focus on Mental Health Integrated Health Care for Older Adults. When completed, send hardcopy to Data Notebook California Mental Health Planning Council, P.O. Box 997413, Sacramento, CA 95899-7413 and electronic copy to DataNotebook@CMHPC.CA.GOV
- Rebekah Mills, proposed a Jail sub-committee with members Rebekah Mills and Charlotte Reyes
Action item: Hugh McCormick motioned, Rebekah Mills Second - Ayes: All Nays: None

Motion to adjourn at 5:00 PM proposed by Aimee Escalante, Second by Kate Avraham

Ayes: All Nays: None