

MINUTES – APPROVED
February 17, 2022

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

January 20, 2022

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Meeting (916) 318-9542, Conference ID 621 545 626#

Present: Antonio Rivas, Catherine Willis, Hugh McCormick, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells-Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

Absent: 0

1. Public Comments

- Dr. John Mackenzie – psychiatric nurse and clinical program manager for telepsychiatry at Dignity Health/Common Spirit Health and a former MHAB member for Solano County. Noted that he does not represent Dominican Hospital, however, wanted to make the Board aware that they are reaching out to try to expand services, more access to appropriate acute and ongoing Behavioral health services for the hospital.
- Andrea Tolaio - new Program Director for Family Service Agency Suicide Prevention Services and working on the 988 project for the Central Coast.

2. Board Member Announcements

- Jeffrey Arlt, new Mental Health Advisory Board Member for the 5th District.
- February 17th MHAB Meeting - Dr. Minkoff, will do a presentation on the “Roadmap to the Ideal Crisis System.” It is an evaluation of all crisis services and finding the gaps in the system.

3. Approved meeting minutes for December 16, 2021

Motion by Serg Kagno to approve the December 16, 2021 MHAB minutes. Second by Laura Chatham.

AYES: Hugh McCormick, Laura Chatham, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT (not present during vote): Antonio Rivas, Catherine Willis, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp

4. Secretary’s Report

- Reminder on Board member attendance – allowed to miss four meetings per year, or two unexcused absences (unexcused means no contact with someone on the Board).
- Reminder on trainings - agreed at the last retreat that Board members should attend two outside trainings that relate to the Board’s mission and goals.

5. Standing Board of Supervisors (BOS) Report, Supervisor Greg Caput

- Currently waiting for money to come in from FEMA. Hoping to have federal and state money to run all the programs during the pandemic and to repay some of the money that was used out of the reserve.
- Possible strike coming up with SEIU. Monday will be an all-day session with the mediator and SEIU representatives to try to come up with an agreement.
- 38-acre park in South County will be an all-natural park. It will include grass instead of artificial turf, gravel and dirt instead of pavement for parking. May have 2 full size soccer/football fields; smaller area of acreage for kids. 19 acres of it would be protected.

Fairgrounds crew and farmers from the Ag Commission will have a living farm. The purchase agreement is a lease with an option to buy. Currently have about \$500K of the \$2.2 million.

- Status of the West Marine facility – currently cleaning up areas and fixing some electrical problems and carpeting problems. Timeline of completion would be about a year from now.
- Watsonville Hospital update – currently have \$10 million of the \$40 million. Looks like Kaiser, Sutter and Dominican would be interested in giving money as Watsonville Hospital will not turn away folks at the emergency room regardless of insurance.

6. Closing Public Comment on the 2022-2027 MHSA Innovation Plan - Healing the Streets
Cassandra Eslami, Director of Community Engagement

- Presentation provided in October. Recently awarded a \$3 million SAMHSA federal grant to serve people who are experiencing co-occurring issues of serious mental illness and substance use disorders and are also experiencing homelessness. The plan is to pilot these services in the cities of Santa Cruz and Watsonville.
 - Board Member Comment (Serg Kagno): I think it is amazing what you're doing for outreach for those not in any sort of services and I hope that we can continue growing in different ways and find those different groups that are not accessing behavioral health services and keep filling the gaps that we find throughout the system so thank you for all the work you have put into this. I look forward to hearing the outcomes or supporting it in any way I can.
 - Board Member Comment (Jeffrey Arlt): Thanks to Karen, Cassandra, Joey, Dr. Ratner for this important work they do for their expertise; a lot has been accomplished in these last 18 months alone and the awareness of the growing need in this area. I would say that to our board and others that our job is to spread the word on these services and to work to establish them as part of a system of care in Santa Cruz. Seeing if this program will work and groups like the Mental Health Advisory Board would play the role in helping to create ongoing services to our community, so again thank you all for your hard work.
 - Board Member Comment (Xaloc Cabanes): As a community, we are extremely fortunate to have the leadership that we have, I think that right now people in visible positions providing support for community are being targeted in horrible ways and so I am just so much more thankful of how hard it is to provide support to our community and that the perseverance is there to do so and I hope that you and your team have a moment to really feel accomplished on this. Thank you so much.

7. Standing Reports

a. MHSA Advisory Committee

- No report.

b. Site Visit Program Ad Hoc Committee

- No report.
- Due to the Omicron surge at the jail, visits are limited. Will continue to request for a tour of jail.
- Wellpath, the mental health provider at the jail, is willing to do a presentation for the MHAB in the future.

- c. Budget Committee
 - No report.
 - d. Community Engagement Committee
 - No report.
 - e. Law Enforcement and Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee
 - February 17, 2022 Meeting - Roadmap to the Ideal Crisis System Presentation with Dr. Kenneth Minkoff. Dr. Minkoff is a professor from Harvard and a psychiatrist, and will do a condensed presentation about the roadmap. The roadmap refers to different services that are crisis services, not just behavioral health.
8. Patients' Rights Reports – by George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate
- Submitted the Reise Hearings report only. The December Patients' Rights Advocate Report will be forwarded and distributed to the Board after the meeting.

9. New Business

- a. Letter of support regarding Oversight Committee of Sheriff's Office
- Background information: The state made it possible for any County to institute oversight for their Sheriff's Office either through an independent auditor or create a board, which would have accountability and oversight. The BOS had it on their agenda at the last meeting and they agreed to an independent auditor instead of having a board. The letter states that the MHAB is in support of an oversight board and includes a request for having representation on that board of either lived experience with mental health, a family member or professionals who know Mental Health.

Motion by Antonio Rivas to approve the letter as amended, adding youth representation on the oversight board, and adding Supervisor Caput's signature. Second by Jennifer Wells Kaupp.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Catherine Willis, Hugh McCormick, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput
NAYS: 0

- b. 2021 Data Notebook
- Correction on question #14 about demographics on the Board. Currently indicates that Hispanic and White are represented, but African American is also represented.

Motion by Serg Kagno to accept the 2021 Data Notebook with the correction of question #14 to include the demographic of African American. Second by Valerie Webb.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Catherine Willis, Hugh McCormick, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput
NAYS: 0

c. 2021 Biennial Report

Motion by Antonio Rivas to submit the Biennial Report to the Board of Supervisors. Second by Valerie Webb.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Catherine Willis, Hugh McCormick, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

Motion to adjourn made by Hugh McCormick. Second by Antonio Rivas. Meeting adjourned at 4:47p.m.