

DATE: August 11, 2015

LEADER: Ben Maas

TIME: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

RECORDER: Lisa Gjerde

| COUNCIL MEMBERS | | | LIAISON MEMBERS | | | GUESTS |
|-----------------|---|---|-----------------|---|---|--------|
| Name | P | A | Name | P | A | Name |
| | | | | | | |
| Caroline Beise | √ | | Alene Chelman | √ | | |
| Sam Deweese | √ | | Melissa Hanson | √ | | |
| Lisa Gjerde | √ | | Gary Norman | √ | | |
| Lisa Inman | √ | | | | | |
| Sue Kunitz | | √ | | | | |
| Becky Maas | √ | | | | | |
| Ben Maas | √ | | | | | |
| Rod Sawtell | | √ | | | | |
| Twyla Sawtell | | √ | | | | |
| Becky Sorenson | √ | | | | | |
| Eddie Tipton | √ | | | | | |
| Virginia Wright | √ | | | | | |

| Agenda | Activity/Discussion | Decision/Action/Conclusion |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Call to Order | Ben called the meeting to order. | Approved by consensus. |
| Approve August agenda | Ben made the motion to approve the agenda; Eddie seconded. | Approved by consensus. |
| Approve July minutes | Ben made the motion to approve the July minutes, pending any edits from Melanie Warm; Sam seconded. | Approved by consensus. |

**LAC Handbook and
Worksheet Review**

Strengths of our local advisory council (LAC):

1. Interest, compassion, caring, and passion on the part of members
2. A variety of first-hand experience with mental health issues
3. Emphasis on education
4. Forward movement and growth (not a lot of turnover)

Challenges our LAC faces:

1. Improve (frequency of) communication with commissioners
2. Need a diversity member
3. Need more consumers who are utilizing county services
4. Could use more providers
5. To continue to break down the stigma of mental illness

Steps to address challenges include:

1. Send biannual letters to the commissioners
2. Send special invitations to commissioners to attend LAC meetings
3. Attend Board meetings
4. Send our minutes to the State Advisory Council as noted in Handbook

Engagement of people with a lived mental health experience on our LAC:

1. Overall, the feeling was that consumers are well-represented
2. Could use more consumer input
3. LAC needs to be consumer-oriented and driven

People/Groups/Organizations to engage in LAC work include:

1. More consumers
2. Commissioners
3. Consortium and Adult Mental Health Initiative (AMHI)
4. Faith communities

**LAC Worksheet
Cont.**

Ways to engage these people/groups/organizations include:

- 1. Send special invitations to commissioners
- 2. Have more consumer listening sessions
- 3. Write newspaper articles on mental health topics

How to ensure our LAC will make an impact on mental health in the county:

- 1. Reaching more people who don't know what services are available
- 2. Do more outreach in the community
- 3. "Push" out to the community instead of "Pulling"
- 4. Determine where we fit in regards to other mental health groups in the county, such as the Consortium and the AMHI

**Roundtable
Discussion**

Introductions were made with our newest member, Becky Maas.

Elections will be held in September, as our August meeting is shortened due to the consumer listening session following it.

Gary announced the upcoming MACMHP Annual Conference in Duluth. The question was raised whether there might be some funding to send an interested LAC member to the conference. Gary said he'd look into it.

Eddie announced that the rural mental health conference on Friday, October 9th, will be held via webinar. Eddie also mentioned that he attended the Carver County Fair partly in order to determine the means necessary to get a table there and have LAC members volunteer to man it next year. We agreed that this would be something to discuss in future meetings.

Adjourn

Ben made the motion to adjourn.

Addendum

Gary and Melissa found funding to send one LAC member to the MACMHP Conference in Duluth Sept. 16-18. Ben made an online motion on August 23rd to approve the scholarship, along with up to \$200 for lodging, and to award the scholarship to Lisa G. Lisa I. seconded the motion. Over the next 72 hours, Ben received 7 ayes and 5 abstentions, so it was decided that Lisa G. would receive the scholarship and represent the LAC at the conference.

Interested members should inform the LAC of their intentions to run for office a week prior to the September meeting.

Approved by consensus.

