



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Mental Health

1 West Wilson Street, P.O. Box 7851
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7851

Meeting Minutes of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health Executive Committee

February 28, 2014

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1 West Wilson Street, Conference Room 850-A, Madison, Wisconsin

Members of the Committee in attendance: Karen Herro, Shel Gross, Mary Neubauer, Kim Eithun-Harshner, Jackie Baldwin, Joann Stephens

Department of Health Services Staff in attendance: Joyce Allen, Ryan Stachowiak

Item 1: Call to Order

Review and Approval of Draft Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health (WCMH) of January 3, 2014

J. Baldwin moved to approve the minutes of January 3, 2014.

J. Stephens seconded the motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2014.

Yea: K. Herro, K. Eithun-Harshner, J. Baldwin, J. Stephens (4)

Nay: (0)

Abstention: M. Neubauer

Motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2014 carries.

Item 2: Letter from Milwaukee County Corporation Council

S. Gross discussed letters which were sent between the Milwaukee County Office of Corporation Counsel and Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW). The following letters were discussed: a February 11, 2014 letter from the Corporation Counsel to Governor Walker, DHS Secretary Kitty Rhoades, WCMH Chair Shel Gross, and Beth Sweeden of the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities, a February 12, 2014 letter from DRW to the Milwaukee Corporation Counsel, and a February 18, 2014 letter from the Corporation Counsel to DRW. The County alleges that DRW disclosed protected health information which was received as part of DRW's investigation of the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division. The County believes DRW is violating their responsibilities around protected health information and HIPAA as they continue to link to a Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Article on via the DRW website. The Corporation Counsel also alleges that though this information had been disclosed through the Journal Sentinel it does not remove DRW's obligation to remove this information from their website. The Corporation Counsel states in their February 11 letter that the "disclosure constitutes a grave breach of DRW's statutory and ethical patient confidentiality obligations and should prompt reconsideration of its role as Wisconsin's Protection and Advocacy agent."

S. Gross stated that reviewing this situation is something that is within the purview of the Council as DRW does receive Mental Health Block Grant funding. J. Allen stated that at one point the State did designate DRW as the advocacy agent but the application currently goes to the Federal government and that the Federal government funds directly, but there is a process to remove that designation.

S. Gross noted that he had discussed the situation with DHS Deputy Secretary Kevin Moore and with DRW's Kit Kershensteiner. S. Gross stated his opinion that the Council's role ought to be to continue to monitor the situation. S. Gross asked the committee if there was any other action the executive committee should take at this time. There were no other recommendations made.

Item 3: Committee Updates and Action Items for WCMH Meeting on March 19, 2014

Criminal Justice Committee

J. Stephens will be having the Department of Corrections Probation and Parole attend the next Criminal Justice Committee meeting for a discussion. S. Gross stated that there will be a meeting with State Senator Glenn Grothman regarding Treatment and Diversion (TAD).

S. Gross noted that J. Stephens will be leaving the council in July of 2014. She will be staying on the CJC as co-chair but that the CJC and Council will be working to identify a person who would be a good fit for the Council and could then take over leadership of the CJC.

Legislative and Policy Committee

S. Gross noted that no motions were made at the most recent Legislative and Policy Committee (LPC) meeting. S. Gross noted that another thing that people are working on is a bill to reduce stigma. The bill is being developed by Representative Sandy Pasch. The bill has not yet been introduced. Ultimately the bill may be introduced as part of the budget next year.

S. Gross is working on some folks to develop talking points to support the expanded funding of Comprehensive Community Services (CCS), if such support is needed. S. Gross stated that it will be important for people to get in touch with members of the Joint Finance Committee to talk about how important CCS expansion is.

The LPC has also started doing some work on identifying budget priorities. The committee has invited the other committees to discuss as well and add recommendations. The LPC does not expect this to be a big agenda though part of the agenda will be to support additional staff for DMHSAS and expanded support for data systems and collection. The LPC wants to ensure that the State has the means to measure effectiveness of services. The LPC is hoping to have DMHSAS identify what resources are needed. Peer services, and parent-peer will also be important to continue working on. J. Baldwin added that infant and early childhood mental health, prevention and early intervention are all important issues to continue supporting.

Adult Quality Committee

K. Herro stated that the last Adult Quality Committee (AQC) meeting was canceled, partly because of weather. The AQC will have to reschedule meetings and consider moving the day and time of meetings as there is overlap with other committees. The AQC also is in need of more members, if there are any other people interested in joining, the AQC would be open to new members. The AQC has been spending time reviewing topics which are of interest to the committee. K. Herro stated that she wants there to be more action taken by the committee, in particular taking action on bills and legislation. Herro plans to ask the committee if it is reasonable for there to be an expectation for a learning curve, but with people always coming and going, the committee must be willing to take action, and learning must be ongoing.

J. Stephens recommended reaching out to the consumer run organizations throughout the state to see if there are any others who were interested in joining the AQC. S. Gross asked if there were positions the AQC would be beneficial to have on the committee. Ideas which were raised included representation from county providers, county quality services, the Division of Quality Assurance, and CCS representation from Dane County. S. Gross recommended that committees have roughly 12-15 members, and noted that he would hope for WCMH committees to maintain a similar membership balance to the Council. K. Herro stated that she will check with M. Strittmater regarding representation from WCHSA or other county human services representation which might be part of the AQC.

S. Gross noted that he had appointed K. Herro to serve as interim chair of the AQC for the 6 month term allowed by the Council bylaws. That term is coming up, and S. Gross stated that are council members who could serve as interim, and be supported by K. Herro. S. Gross stated that the Council could review if appointing K. Herro for another six month term as interim chair would be appropriate.

S. Gross will discuss the role with Council members on the AQC to see if there is interest in serving as Chair with Karen Herro.

Children and Youth Committee

K. Eithun-Hashner stated that the Children and Youth Committee (CYC) will not have any motions to bring to the upcoming Council meeting. The CYC has been working on the child psych shortage issue and the Governor did sign the bill for the education stipend support and the child psychiatry access line. The CYC is still looking at ways to incentivize mental health professions staying in the state to practice. The CYC is also working on a lot of prevention, child development, and early intervention. The Committee is working on a strategic planning instrument to look at what services and resources are available via the State departments and the community.

Tim Connor, of DMHSAS, came and talked about data issues at the previous CYC meeting. T. Connor will be coming back to discuss data issues in the future. Elizabeth Hudson, the new Director of the Office of Children's Mental Health, came to the last CYC meeting as well. The CYC is hoping to have Ms. Hudson, or a staff person from the Office, attend the CYC meetings in the long term. S. Gross also recommended that the CYC look at if this office needs additional funds to support the office.

Nominating Committee

M. Neubauer stated that the Nominating Committee (NC) met today and discussed a few items. The NC will present a motion to recommend two applicants, Karen Herro, an advocate, and Tony Thrasher, a provider, the medical director for crisis services, to the Governor's Office for consideration for appointment to the Council. J. Stephens will be concluding her service to the WCMH in July, and M. Neubauer and C. Keen will need to seek reappointment if they are each interested in continuing to serve on the Council.

M. Neubauer recommended, to support ongoing recruitment to the Council, that the Council distribute information via organizations such as NAMI. M. Neubauer also noted that it is important to communicate that people can join WCMH committees as an alternative to serving on the WCMH.

Item 4: Ongoing collaboration with SCAODA

S. Gross stated that Duncan Shroud of the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA) had been scheduled to attend the March 19th Council meeting, but will be unable to attend. Mr. Shroud will attend a future meeting to discuss the SCAODA, and collaboration between the two councils. The WCMH executive committee

will plan a meeting with the SCAODA executive committee in the near future. Norman Briggs, of the SCAODA, has also joined the CJC, and there is some other interest in collaboration between committees. It was noted that one barrier between collaboration is that the SCAODA CYC meeting is the same day of the WCMH CYC so there is not a lot of opportunity for overlap between the two committees which both focus on children and youth.

Item 5: Review of Proposed Agenda for March 19, 2014 WCMH Meeting

S. Gross noted that there will be additional presenters, which J. Stephens has been coordinating. Committees of the WCMH are encouraged to continue identifying topics and presentations for the WCMH meetings. S. Gross also requested that the DMHSAS present information regarding data or regionalization at the May Council meeting.

Item 6: Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.