

MINUTES
of the
Mental Health Planning Advisory Council
Nominating Committee
meeting on
Monday, December 13, 2010
held at
Substance Abuse Treatment & Prevention Agency (SAPTA)
4126 Technology Way, Second Floor Conference Room
Carson City, NV 89706

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS –RENE NORRIS, CHAIR

Rene called the meeting to order at 10:11 am. Verbal roll call completed. Tanya completed sign-in sheet.

Members Present:

- Jackson, Barbara – Consumer (via teleconference in Reno)
- Norris, Rene – Family Member, Chair (via teleconference in Las Vegas)
- Phinney, Cody – MHDS
- Snead, Lydia – Family Member (via teleconference in Reno)

Members Absent:

- Thomas, Alyce – Consumer (Excused)

Staff and guests:

- Benitez, Tanya – MHDS/MHPAC Admin. Asst.
- Mowbray, Roger – Grant Writer

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MHPAC NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING ON 12/7/10

Rene asked for questions and/or comments regarding the minutes. Lydia motioned to accept the minutes as written. Barbara seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

3. REVIEW AND DISCUSS MHPAC MEMBERSHIP VACANCY AND QUESTIONS (CONSUMER)

Roger went over the vacancy. There was conversation at the last meeting in regard to allocation of the positions on the Council to family members and consumers. With the vacancy, there are five consumers, survivors, ex-patients in that category. There are three family members of children with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) and two family members of adults with Severe Mental Illness (SMI). He said both Alyce and Barbara felt strongly that the position they are interviewing for should be a consumer because that is the driving force behind the Council. Roger said the question came up because one of the applicants indicated on their application that they were a family member, consumer, and a provider and in the course of the interview, her activities as a substance abuse prevention provider at Fallon Naval Air Station and dealings with her son; however, she did not mention her involvement as a consumer. The Committee called her back for clarification and she said she had been a consumer many years ago. There was discussion after the call about once a consumer always a consumer. Roger asked Barbara to elaborate. Barbara said she was not aware there is a recovery for being a consumer, and this person stated that they used to be a consumer. Barbara said her understanding is once a person is a consumer; they will always be a consumer. Roger said he believes that was Alyce thoughts on the matter as well. Rene asked if the person was speaking as a consumer receiving state services. Lydia said the person stated she was not receiving any services. Roger said she is providing substance abuse services at the Navel Base in Fallon. Rene said as far as substance abuse and any twelve step program that is how they stay clean is by helping others reach sobriety. Cody said her current interaction with the system has to do with a family member. Rene asked for clarification as to whether she received mental health services or just substance abuse. Tanya said she had numerous diagnoses. Lydia said the person stated she was through with treatment a long time ago and has not received treatment for a long time.

Cody said the Committee also contacted two other applicants who both indicated they were moving to Utah in the near future. Because they have previously had a discussion with the Attorney General and they have determined that members need to be Nevada residents, they did not continue with the interviews.

Roger said when Tanya makes the call, Rene will introduce the Committee and then turns the floor to Roger for a brief summary of what the Council does and the expectations of the Council and how the nomination process works. Then there are the three questions that are asked.

Cody will ask question one: "What has been your involvement with the mental health system in Nevada?" Lydia will ask question two: "What are the unmet needs and challenges facing the mental health system in Nevada?" Barbara will ask question three: "What qualities will you bring to the Council?"

4. TELEPHONE INTERVIEW WITH APPLICANTS FOR MHPAC CONSUMER VACANCY

Britanie Resnick

Rene introduced the Committee. Roger gave the overview of the Council. Britanie asked what a consumer is defined as. Roger said a consumer is someone who has at some point received mental health services. A family member is someone who works closely with the services for either a child or adult.

Cody asked question one. Britanie said she is a client at Mesquite Mental Health and has been for about three years. She also has a son who it being seen.

Lydia asked question two. Britanie said there is not very much public awareness especially in rural areas. She said they attempt to get the information out there. There should be more places where they can get the information, maybe a monthly public meeting. Rene asked if they know the services are there. Britanie said they need to know what services are available to them and they need to know about what is available because there is more than one type of service.

Barbara asked question three. Britanie said she is very willing to learn and listen. She has knowledge of mental health because of her illness and she can bring ideas to the table. She considers herself to be very creative and is willing to help with change.

Roger asked if she had any questions. She did not. She said she is very excited to have the interview and have the opportunity to be considered. Rene said they would let her know after the meeting in January.

Beverly Murphy-Hall

Rene introduced the Committee. Roger gave the overview of the Council.

Cody asked question one. Beverly said she has gone to Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS) for seven years. She has been treated in the out patient clinic. She is concerned that people are being prescribed with a let's try this. When people are out there by themselves, they are not in contact with the clinic except for every three or four months. There is not the opportunity to check in and find out if the effects are normal.

Lydia asked question two. Beverly said there are not any referral programs for medical help. If people meet financial requirements to go NNAMHS for mental health they are also hurting for medical help as well. If there could be a list of providers, it would be very helpful. She does not see a lot of changes that can be made realistically. She understands they are on a budget and that people are working as hard as they can. She believes a lot of medical problems are being treated with psychiatric medications.

Barbara asked question three. Beverly said she is still pretty smart, has raised kids and has grandchildren. She has dealt with a number of things in the past. She believes she can offer a perspective that others may not be able to communicate. Roger asked if she has any questions. Beverly said she is interested in helping the Council and she looks forward to the next meeting. Rene thanked her for her time and said they would let her know after the meeting in January.

5. DETERMINE NOMINATION TO PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The candidates are Gayle, Britanie, and Beverly. Lydia said she would like to vote both Britanie and Beverly in. Both have a unique perspective. Barbara concurred both applicants spoken too today are good. Cody asked if they are still considering Gayle who was interviewed at the last meeting. Lydia said she feels that the third applicant talked about everything in the past and so she is concerned about her voice on the Council. Cody thought Britanie displays a great deal of enthusiasm and creativity. Barbara agreed. Lydia said she believes Britanie has a very important aspect to share with the world. Lydia gave an overview on Beverly. She believes both Britanie and Beverly would be good for the Council. Cody said Gayle did bring a perspective that may be helpful to them with her involvement with the military because they will be facing pressure to include that type of involvement as they move forward. There are going to be a lot of changes to the Block Grant and there is also going to be a lot of movement toward combining substance abuse and mental health in many ways, integrating everything. Clearly Beverly brings a wealth of life experience and resilience just from what they have already heard. Roger said this is a very difficult decision they have. Lydia asked about bringing all three applicants to the Council. Barbara asked if they are going to vote today.

Rene asked for a vote on each applicant. Britanie received two, Beverly received one, and Gayle received none.

Cody said they are not sure what the Governor's Office is looking for. Rene said they can put Britanie to the Council for a vote and hold the other applicants for future openings. Rene asked if they should ask the Council if for any reason the Governor does not appoint Britanie, can they go ahead with having Beverly put in the application. The consensus was yes.

Lydia motioned to bring Britanie to the Council and for the Council to consider Beverly as a back up if for any reason the Governor rejects the application. Cody seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

7. SET DATE AND TOPICS FOR FOLLOW-UP MEETING

Lydia motioned to have the date to be determined at a later date as the need arises. Cody seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

8. ADJOURNMENT

Cody motioned to adjourn. Lydia seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.