

MINUTES
of the
Mental Health Planning Advisory Council
Executive Committee

meeting on
Thursday, February 18, 2010

held at
Nevada Division of Mental Health & Developmental Services (MHDS)
4126 Technology Way, Second Floor Conference Room
Carson City, Nevada 89706

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

Rene called the meeting to order at 9:08 am. Verbal roll call completed. Tanya completed the sign in sheet.

Members present:

- Norris, Rene – Family Member, Chair
- Peterman, Patricia – Family Member, Vice Chair
- Polakowski, Ann – DCFS
- Thomas, Alyce – Consumer, Past Chair
- Caloiaro, Dave – MHDS (for Cody Phinney)

Members absent:

- Phinney, Cody

Staff and guests:

- Benitez, Tanya – MHPAC Administrative Assistant
- Mowbray, Roger – Grant Consultant

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MHPACE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 2/5/2010

Rene asked for comments on the minutes. None were made.

Alyce motioned to accept the minutes as written. Patricia seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

3. LEGISLATIVE/SPECIAL SESSION BUDGET REDUCTIONS

Rene gave the floor to Roger. Roger said he has sent several notices out in regard to meetings that will be taking place. On Saturday, February 20, 2010, there will be a marathon session with a lot of public input. On Wednesday, they heard comments regarding Developmental Services. The IFC is to meet at 9:00 am today. Alyce said she has listened but has not been available to participate. Roger said the special session is to start on Monday, February 23, 2010. He believes they are going to attempt to keep the session to a minimum. They have not announced or posted any specific meetings on the special session. He is not sure what form or way that the public will have for input once the special session starts. Roger said in one of the first messages he sent out, he included the Governor's recommendations for the budget cuts and then the more specific cuts related to the mental health services, a lot of which, were on the developmental side of MHDS as opposed to the mental health side. Roger thought there were also some on the DCFS mental health side as well.

Roger provided the same information to the Commission. He is not sure if they will be taking any action. He believes their efforts are more along the line of what they will be doing for the regular session next year and the children's consortia that they are working on today and tomorrow.

Roger said he has seen a lot of clients and staff members speaking on their own time, imploring the Legislators to not make some of the proposed cuts to the Health and Human Services, and imploring them to consider raising revenue.

Rene asked if they have heard anything in regard to travel for the Block Grant Conference. Roger said they have heard that if the terms of the Block Grant require the travel, then those will be considered, but they have to go all the way to the Director's Office. Roger will be communicating with the Fed's to find out if attendance to the Block Grant Conference is required as a stipulation for the Block Grant.

Rene asked how many days are left. Roger confirmed that this is the pre-session and the special session will start on the 23rd. In the information he has read, indicates that they will attempt to be done in the four days that they have. Rene asked if the IFC are meeting on Friday and Monday also. Roger said there is a meeting on Monday at 9:00 am.

4. MEMBER ORIENTATION/TRAINING

Rene asked if they had heard from Judy. Tanya said she had received an email from Judy stating that she would need to check with her project officer before Judy would be able to let Tanya know how they would be able to work it. Judy also asked about the options of traveling between the two. Tanya clarified that she was discussing herself and the other person that would be traveling with her to

assist with the training. Tanya informed Judy that she would need to bring the information to the Executive Committee to discuss. Roger verified that Judy is requesting to have the travel paid between the north and south. Tanya confirmed. She said that she doesn't believe the Council paid for the travel last time. Alyce said they probably didn't pay last time because everyone was in one location. She said if they are asking them to fly from Reno to Las Vegas instead of just one location. Traditionally they have done the training in one location. Rene asked how they would be able to do the travel with the travel restrictions. Roger said he believes the travel restriction applies to the Council funding other non-state employees as well. Alyce said in the past, when Southwest airlines would give them free tickets, she would use the ticket rather than having the Council pay. She said if she has earned a free ticket she would be willing to give it for them to travel. Alyce said if a person has flown in the last two years, if the person contacts Southwest airlines and give them your name and address, they will add all of the flights that have been missed, due to not having your rewards number, onto your present. Southwest is willing to do this until June of this year. Rene asked Tanya to check with Judy to see if the training can be done via video conference. Alyce said she has been to the 101 and she is also a train the trainer for NMHPAC, so she is willing to do training if it is needed.

Roger said he checked on the status of the reappointments. The Governor's Office has stated that they will be considered in March. Roger also confirmed the list of members for the Council. Roger went over the list of members that are at the "Pleasure of the Governor." Rene asked with the new bylaws that went into effect at the last meeting, do they need to send out letters in regard to the bylaws. Roger asked if it should be sent to everyone or just those that did not attend the last meeting. Alyce said it would be a good idea to send it to every Council member. Patricia said they should be sent via certified mail. Discussion ensued. Roger asked if the Executive Committee would like him to address the concerns about the budget and reduced travel. Roger mentioned the travel to/from meetings and the mileage reimbursement. Alyce said she forgets to do it. Rene also said she forgets. Rene said that the only members it will matter to will be the people who are in the rural areas and need to travel Las Vegas/ Reno. Alyce said for those that are just traveling in town it should not be necessary, but those that have to travel a long distance to reach the meeting location, it would be necessary.

Rene asked if the Council would need to pay the hotel room and per diem for Judy also. Tanya said she would clarify with Judy. Alyce asked where the most members are located. Roger said there are eight in Las Vegas, nine in Reno/Carson City, and three in the rural areas. Two of the rural members are closer to Reno. Dave asked about video conferencing. Rene asked Alyce how the training would go. Alyce said it would be challenging but it can be done. Tanya said she is working with the IT department to see how many they can video conference with at one time. It is possible to call out to two different lines, and they believe that an unlimited number can call in. The IT department is testing that. Rene asked if the rural areas have the video equipment. Tanya responded

that she has checked with the rural locations to verify the video conference equipment. Rene asked for other ideas. Rene said that she does not believe there will be an exception even though it is an item that is written in the bylaws that has to be done every year. Alyce said that it is federally funded. Ann said at this time, the funding source doesn't matter for travel. Dave said his understanding is that the travel ban will go through the biennium, which will be June 30th of 2011. Ann said she was not under the impression that they could not bring in people. She said it may have changed. Rene asked about the travel from Laughlin and Fallon. Dave said at this time, they would not be able to reimburse the mileage. Ann said they know that the reimbursement for travel is going away for state employees, but they are not sure what it is for Council members who are non state employees or for people coming in. The committee needs to find out what the parameters are and then proceed. Rene asked if it is possible to find out where Council members fall in regard to travel reimbursement. Ann asked if there has been anymore talk about suspending boards and commissions. Rene asked if they would look at how it would affect funding if they suspend boards and commissions. Roger said that the first question will be is it required for funding. Roger clarified that the Council is required as a condition of the grant. Roger read a portion of the funding agreement where "the state will establish and maintain a State Mental Health Planning Council in accordance with the conditions described in this section." He said it describes the three duties and then goes into the composition.

Alyce motioned to write a letter in regard to the change in the bylaws regarding attendance. Ann seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Alyce said she is committed to the ticket to work summit on April 5 & 6, 2010, so she will not be at the quarterly meeting on April 6, 2010. She sits on the ticket to work group on behalf of the Council representing Mental Health. She will send her proxy to Rene. Rene asked her to send a copy to Tanya also. Rene said she is representing the Council. She is excused.

6. SET DATE AND TOPICS FOR FOLLOW-UP MEETING

Next meeting set at 10:00 am on March 22, 2010. Items to be discussed are travel, orientation, and special session update.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Patricia motioned to adjourn. Alyce seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 am.