



JIM GIBBONS
Governor

Chair: Lesley Dickson, MD

Vice-Chair: Larry Ashley, PhD

**Governor's
Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders
(SB 2)**

Minutes

Date and Time of Meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 1:00pm.

Attendance: Larry Ashley, Richard Baldo, Elena Brady, Joanne Flanagan (representing Harold Cook and MHDS/SAPTA), Lesley Dickson, Mel Pohl, David Sonner, An-Pyng Sun, Donna Wilburn. Guests: Kevin Quint of the Commission on MHDS, Frank Parenti of the SAPTA Integration Committee, Maurice Lee of WestCare and Ron Lawrence of Community Counseling.

Opening Remarks: Lesley Dickson, Chair, thanked everyone for coming.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 18, 2009 were approved.

Report of Meeting with the Commission on Mental Health and Developmental Services: Dr. Dickson met with the Commission September 16 and 18. It was decided to collaborate together and keep each group informed of activities and efforts. We will work from our report and with the next one in mind. We will also try to develop a legislative agenda. Dr. Pohl suggested we avoid redundancies. Dr. Kevin Quint presented their intent to follow SB 79 and incorporate Co-Occurring Disorders into their mission and activities. It was decided that Dr. Quint and his assistant would also include Diane Comeau. They will work on setting up a meeting, probably a conference call, to begin the collaboration.

Report of the SAPTA Integration Sub-Committee: Frank Parenti presented on the activities of this committee which addresses issues of co-occurring disorders. They work with SAMHSA funds and Medicaid and there are two funded programs in Las Vegas, Community Counseling and WestCare Adolescents, and two in Reno. They work from 4 points: Shared resources such as data systems, Barriers to access such as lack of credentialed professionals, Communication and Systems Cross-Training. Ron Lawrence contributed to this report by describing how they are treating individuals with co-occurring disorder and presently have SA counselors embedded in three SNAMHS clinics and 3 rural clinics. They are also working with Solutions Recovery and have opened a 10 bed residential program and plan to open another shortly. Three problems were listed: Not enough financial resources, lack of on-site psychiatrist due to lack of funding and availability and the loss of newly trained staff to the private sector due to low salaries.

Committee vacancies: We have applicants for all vacancies and two for the Social Work position. It was decided that both social workers would be great additions but that Nancy Sader-Domani would also bring in expertise in some criminal justice issues so we voted to recommend that she be offered the appointment. We also approved Dr. Ghertner (hospital), Judge Elliott, Kathy Eppen (the consumer position after Dr. Dickson talks briefly with her), Judy Bousquet (the MHPAC position) and Maurice Lee (for the community program replacing Kirby Burgess who decided not to be reappointed due to time issues). Dr. Dickson will let Annalyn in the Governor's office know of our decision.

Honoring Rosetta: Elena had talked with Rosetta's husband who said he was closing down her non-profit organization. Elena suggested we invite him to our next meeting.

SB 260 Discussion: Due to time constraints, the discussion was postponed.

Public Comment: Ron Lawrence had spoken earlier. No other members of the public as to speak.

Set Agenda and Date(s) of Next Meeting(s): Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 16, 2009 from 1 – 3pm. We anticipate our new members will join us and we will discuss our function and where we want to go from here.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Dickson, MD