

MINUTES
of the
Mental Health Planning Advisory Council
Clubhouse Committee
meeting on
Tuesday, March 29, 2011
held at
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 – JUDY BOUSQUET, CHAIR

Judy called the meeting to order at 10:15 am. Tanya completed roll call and the sign-in sheet.

Members Present:

- Bousquet, Judy – Consumer (via teleconference in Henderson)
- Caloiaro, Dave – MHD (back up for Cody Phinney)
- Thomas, Alyce – Consumer (via teleconference in Las Vegas)
- Willingham, Bryce – Consumer (via proxy by Judy Bousquet)

Members Absent:

- Daniels, Steve – DOC
- Herrera, Corrie – Family Member

Staff and guests:

- Benitez, Tanya – MHDS/MHPAC Admin. Asst.
- Mowbray, Roger – Grant Writer
- Murphy, Cheryl – HOPE of Nevada
- Schultz, Myra - SNAMHS

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MHPAC CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING ON 9/29/2010

Judy asked for discussion of the minutes on 9/29/10. Alyce motioned to approve the minutes as written. Bryce (proxy) seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

3. CLUBHOUSE UPDATE

Judy said she will do a brief update. The public is Myra and Cheryl. She would like to bring the public into the discussion. She met with Cheryl and Myra. They did get sidetracked mid way through. She would like to see trips to St. George or Cedar City and the Village in Long Beach. On Cheryl's side, she does not believe anyone has seen a Clubhouse in operation. She asked for Myra's opinion. Myra said if they can give some dates, she believes Friday would be easier. She needs to know how many people, because they will feed them and she wants St. George to know that they will not overrun them. Judy asked Cheryl is this is reasonable to look at one or two clubhouses in action. Cheryl said it would be fine. Judy asked if anyone on the Committee had anything to add.

Judy said it is very important for everyone working toward a clubhouse framework to see at least one in operation. Judy, Cheryl, and Myra discussed dates they could go to the clubhouse. Judy asked how they would plan. Judy asked if she needs a motion. Tanya informed Judy that this an update item, with no action to be taken. Any discussion that does not have to do with the MHPAC Clubhouse Committee would need to be discussed and set up outside of the Council meeting.

Judy asked for input. Dave clarified that Judy, Cheryl, and Myra would have to do this without funds from the Council. Myra said she can set up a meeting with Independence House. Judy asked how many from each group. Cheryl said four, Myra has three. Judy said they would need two cars. Cheryl said they should keep this for the ones who are on the advisory board so they can make the decisions themselves and ask the questions later. Later they can take a trip with more people who want to get involved. Right now she would like to have just the people who are already involved at the moment.

Alyce asked what this clubhouse meeting is for, is this meeting for them to plan or is this meeting for the Committee to receive an update for the Council. What is the Council's role? Judy said there are two groups that are interested in doing a Clubhouse/drop in center. It makes sense for everyone to work together. Alyce said she is asking how the Council fits in, how are they supporting or not supporting. What is the role the Council has in this, because right now there are Council members on the phone and the only people planning or going to visit the clubhouse are the two members of the public and their groups along with Judy?

She would like to know the Council's involvement. Judy said the three things the Council agreed to do all they can to write grants, send support letters, and do outreach as they did at the last health fair last May with printed material and discussing the Council and how it works. Alyce asked how the Council helps with the process now. Judy asked if anyone on the Committee would be interested in taking the trips with them. Alyce thought she heard Ms. Murphy state this is something that they are just going to do now, unless she misunderstood. Judy agreed. Cheryl said if a member of the Council would like to go that is fine, if they are going to support them. Alyce said she is asking what the Council's role is so she can get a better understanding. Judy said if a member of the Council wants to go that would be acceptable and appreciated.

Alyce wants to make sure when the Council's Committee meet like this, there is a purpose the Council can provide. As the Committee they need to report to the full Council. If she was reporting to the Council at this moment she would not understand what she is reporting. Cheryl said from her point of view, she has been told the Council may be able to help them find funding for the Clubhouse and give letters of recommendation and support along the way. Judy said until they find a format that they can come together on, she believes it is necessary for them to do the trip(s). Myra said at their last meeting in Las Vegas, they had combined the best of the drop in center and the best of the clubhouse activities, and not focusing on everything that each does but combining a range of services, so they can get started. They had chosen a name for the new operation to be "A Place for Us." They had discussed arranging to incorporate and put in applications to become a non profit organization. They are looking at what it would cost to put the paperwork together and where it may come from. They are looking at finding people in the community that would be interested in becoming the interim board, who can then make decisions about the types of things they need to do to put this together legally and in terms of processes. They have a working group but they do not have an official interim board. They do not have bylaws, items that will allow them to do business, advertise and request the letters of support without the beginning issues being taken care of. They have an idea of what they want to do.

Alyce asked if she were to go to the Council with the top three things the Clubhouse Committee would like the Council to be involved in, what items those would be. Her purpose in asking is to streamline and help them move forward. Judy asked Roger if there are any small grants to cover the travel expenses. Alyce said they have to do a lot of research and see what is available. They would need someone who is a grant writer. She is not sure Roger can do that. There are budget cuts, including the Council budget. They have always needed to be accountable, but the way they use their time now has to be regimented. Judy said there is the matter of money and seed money to start the bylaws and the non profit status. This had been discussed that HOPE of Nevada would be able to assist. Cheryl said the board of directors went over their budgets; there was not any money available because the grant money has already been earmarked for other

projects. Dave said he would like to follow up briefly with what Alyce said. He reiterated what Cody mentioned at the meeting in September. While the Council as a whole is supportive of this concept, he wanted to remind them that the Council has to be very careful, particularly state employees; they can not be involved in fund raising or soliciting donations. They may not be able to use Roger's time for grant writing.

Myra said promoting the concept becomes critical. There are not any clubhouses in Nevada. There are not a huge amount of things that goes under recovery and strength based programming. In any conversations about planning, looking at a direction for allocating existing resources, if there is a choice between programs that may start or a direction a program may go in these budget cuts, can there be talk to whoever the Council members run into about this program. This is a program and an orientation that gets quicker results than the general traditional mental health models. Talking about it would be very useful for them. This is a direction the country has taken and it would be helpful for Nevada to catch up. Judy agreed. She said originally the Council did vote that they would do what they could in grant writing. Alyce said her concern is Roger is paid by federal dollars and she is not sure that Roger can help write the grants. She said the Committee has been working on this for some time and she would like to see them move forward. She agrees 100% with what Myra and Judy said. Yes, Nevada is behind. When Judy has to go to the Council and provide a report, what three things can the Council support this group in doing? One of the things everyone is looking at is, when the committees meet it costs money, and if they are not showing accomplishments in the meetings, they will not be able to continue. The focus is to discuss in these meetings how they can be supportive as a Council or what it is the Council can do or what do they need the Council to help them with, so the Council can vote on it and move forward by helping them. If they continue and there is no action or no direction, the Council may say this is a waste of time. She believes this is a very important project. They have to focus on how to move the project forward or they will not receive any support. Judy thanked Alyce. Judy said they did vote on the three aspects of support. She asked Roger if they voted to be involved in grant writing. Roger said they did make a concerted effort to pursue a grant and ran into numerous barriers that prevented MHDS from sponsoring it. Myra said it was a grant that would have been awarded to the State, which makes it different from general grants out there that would not necessarily apply to something the State was to manage. Roger said this grant fell under the expectation that MHDS has established with him for pursuing other federal grants for MHDS. He said at this moment, there is a meeting going on in Washington, DC explaining the numerous changes being made to both the Block Grant and the Substance Abuse Prevention Grant. Due to the Health Care Reform, they are asking all of the States to reevaluate how they spend their block grant dollars. There are four steps to the process; an assessment of the strengths and needs, adept analysis, prioritize planning activities, develop objectives, strategies, and performance indicators. This has to be done by October 1, 2011. The point in bringing this up is it will present an opportunity for

both the adult and children's side to solicit input from public and private organizations as to what is important as far as how to spend the block grant dollars. The State will add this into to their upcoming block grant application, taking into account all of the input plus all of the changes they are going through due to Health Care Reform. This process is possible for funding. Roger agreed with Alyce that it is not appropriate to use his time, since he is funded through the block grant, to write grant applications for the private sector. Alyce said there is room for them to say this is a way the Council can help them, if they would support so much for this item or that item. The Committee is accountable for the time they spend, and are required to give a report. They need to be able to say these are the three items and if there is block grant money, they would like to complete an RFP to have this much money to do this item. Judy asked Alyce what she would suggest as the next step. Alyce said because she is not sure what they are doing, they need to have a plan, they need to be able to report on something tangible that they are doing to verify and to give credence to why they are meeting, what they are doing, and what they are planning. Cheryl asked Alyce what three things she thinks. Alyce said she can not answer because she has not been a part of the Clubhouse model they are starting. She believes the different groups would have to say these are the things that need to be done first. For example: they would like to build a foundation. To build the foundation, they will need money for a 5013C, they will need funds to meet to do "X". For example they will need \$8000 to do this. They need letters from the Council saying they support having a clubhouse and this is why.

Cheryl said when they first started HOPE of Nevada wanted to open a drop in center in town because they do not have one. The north has one, but the south does not. This would have been through grants etc. Judy approached them and asked if they would like to join and open one jointly with the clubhouse model. They had some items they agreed and disagreed on. At their last meeting, they had an agenda and someone else came in and changed the focus of the meeting. It changed so they were now going to start another entity to do this. This is not where HOPE of Nevada was going. HOPE of Nevada looked at their funding to see if there was any way to do this, and there was not because all of the grant money is ear marked for the projects they had requested the money for. HOPE of Nevada is still attempting to get to a growth point they feel comfortable with. They are now willing to look at the places discussed earlier and come up with an agreeable program they can present to the Council for support and go from there. Alyce asked if clubhouse, HOPE of Nevada, DBSA, is all doing a clubhouse. Where is the Council involved in this? Cheryl is not sure. She was just giving the background for HOPE of Nevada.

Dave said what he is hearing Alyce ask for is a brief written plan that could be submitted to the Council surmising the background, here's what is leading up to it, and here are the ways they feel the Council can support them. If it is different than what Myra is suggesting, they can submit two separate plans or combine them. Possibly giving this in writing to the Council may lend exactly what they

propose to do. Then the Council can take a look at it and formally vote or have a better understanding. Dave asked if he is anywhere close to what Alyce is attempting to get. Alyce said yes. Cheryl said they had a written plan for the drop in center. Alyce asked if they are discussing two separate items. Cheryl said it was two separate items and then they started working to combine it and this is when they decided they wanted a completely different item with a separate non profit organization. Dave asked who they are. Cheryl said Nevada Disability and Law Center. The entire picture changed; it was no longer a combined effort between Adams House and HOPE of Nevada. It became an entirely separate entity. Judy said there is no need for two drop in centers. To have two organizations attempting to do drop in centers does not make any sense, so her idea was to combine them. Alyce said it would be helpful if the Council new what they are supporting. Myra asked to whom she would submit a written description. Alyce said to the Chair of the Committee, Judy, so she can present it to the Council. They need to know if they are talking one or two because it sounds like there is division. Myra said at the end of the last meeting they had, she thought they were discussing one, which is a combined clubhouse and drop in center providing the sole range of services that both provide. Cheryl confirmed. When the other party came in; it took both of them out and made it a separate entity. Myra said it is a separate entity that would stand as its own charitable organization. She believes the person was picking up on some legal points. Some places where it would be preferable to keep accounting clean, ethical issues clean, by setting it as a separate entity. The person came from a legal standpoint. They were still discussing a combined broad ranging program that would meet their purpose. The issues of what would the board consist of, where would the money be, and who would be in control of what seemed to be the issues that were more divisive. Alyce said as a Council member, she would need to know exactly what they are supporting and what they need to do. What she is hearing is the lines are unclear. She truly needs to understand what they are looking at, and what three goals is the focus. All of the Council's Committees pick three to five items they are going to work on and then they check them off as they go, they report back to the Council, this is what the Council needs to do and then they move on to the next item. Judy said they need a better starting point. Alyce said as a Council member, she has no idea what is being discussed, how to support, and knowing the Council, they are going to ask what they are doing here, why they are doing it, is this Committee one that the Council is paying for that they shouldn't. Judy feels the reason this trip is important is if everyone sees a clubhouse/drop in center in operation they may be able to come together and work in way they can start doing a mission statement, bylaws, how they are going to get the 5013C. Alyce understands, but even with that, where does the Council fit. These are items; they need do on their own and not at a Council function. These are items they can report back to the Council. The conversation of where they are going and when is something that is done on their time, and then they report to the Council this is where they went, and this is where they would like to go from here. Judy thanked her for her input.

Judy said hopefully if they take the trip, they may be able to formulate something they can put on paper for the Council to support. Alyce said that would be helpful for her as a Council member. She asked Dave if it sounds reasonable. Dave concurred. Alyce said it is important they use the time when the Committee meets to get information and make decisions they can recommend to the Council. Judy said it would be mandatory for her to be able to give a succinct report to the Council on May 17th. Cheryl said if they are going to see a clubhouse she believes they need to see the drop in center too, so they have an idea of how they can combine the two and be on the same page. Alyce said those are logistics they need to work out on their time and not the Councils.

Judy said she will network and look for another operation they can look at. Hopefully they will be able to provide a report to the Council of where they are and how they are going to function. Alyce said and how they would like the Council to support them.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment made.

5. SET DATE AND TOPICS FOR FOLLOW-UP MEETING

The Committee will meet after the next full Council meeting. Judy will present a format for the Council to be able to support. Dave agreed. He said when they plan the Committee meeting, they will have visited the sites, presented to the Council, and they will have a more tangible product for discussion at the next meeting. Judy said she strongly believes they need to find a way to work together.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Alyce motioned to adjourn. Dave seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 11:12 am