

**HANOVER TOWNSHIP MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

**MINUTES of the MEETING**

**April 27, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kristen Cruthers at 6:32 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Kristen Cruthers, Kathy Biesiadecki,, Mary Jane Garvey\*, Trustee Khaja Moinuddin, Deb Sircha. Matt Steichmann,\* and Faiza Rahim. Also present, Amanda Teachout, Mental Health Board, Kristin Vana, Township Assistant Administrator, Presenters Victoria Gesinger\*, Liza Gutierrez\*, and Lisa Hanson-Braun\*. \*Attendance via Zoom.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Mr. Steichmann moved to approve the agenda of the meeting of April 27, 2021 and Ms. Biesiadecki seconded. A roll call occurred. The motion was approved.

Ms. Biesiadecki	Yes	Ms. Sirchia	Yes	Ms. Cruthers	Yes
Ms. Garvey	Yes	Trustee Moinuddin	Yes	Mr. Steichmann	Yes
Ms. Rahim	Yes				

**Public Comment:** none

**Presentations:** Victoria Gesinger presented on Ecker Center for Behavioral Health’s Challenge funding request for a new Crisis Stabilization Unit. Ms. Gesinger shared that Ecker had discovered a consistent gap in services for people that did not meet the requirement of hospitalization but needed more than a list of resources. She shared that this gap presented itself in the emergency room and the lobby of their agency and resulted in emergency transports occurring multiple times. Ms. Gesinger also shared that Ecker has received increased funding for the project since the application was written. Ms. Biesiadecki shared that she would have liked to see endorsements from sources outside of Elgin and from the eastern side of Hanover Township. Trustee Moinuddin asked if there was a tentative start date for the program. Ms. Gesinger said they are aiming for fall of 2021. Lisa Hanson-Braun and Liza Gutierrez presented the Challenge request from Partners for Our Communities. They shared that they have been operating out of the Astor Avenue Community Center and are looking to increase the amount of hours they can provide case management for immigrants. Ms. Biesiadecki asked where the clients they serve are immigrating from and how is the language barrier addressed. Ms. Gutierrez shared that the agency has staff that speak over 40 languages and they often provide interpreters.

**Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2021:** Ms. Biesiadecki moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 23, 2021 and Ms. Rahim seconded. The motion was approved.

**Approval of February 2021 Financial Statements:** Ms. Garvey moved to approve the Financial Statements from February 2021 and Ms. Biesiadecki seconded. Ms. Cruthers asked about the discrepancy with Easter Seals and Clearbrook. Manager Teachout confirmed that the error had been addressed with accounting. A roll call occurred and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki	Yes	Ms. Sirchia	Yes	Ms. Cruthers	Yes
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Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

**Approval of March 2021 Financial Statements:** Ms. Rahim moved to approve the March Financial Statements of 2021 and Ms. Garvey seconded. There was no discussion. A roll call occurred and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes  
Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

**Manager's Report:** The Manager's Report was presented and reviewed. Manager Teachout informed the Board about the status of renewing AID transportation, a police report that had been filed at the Resource Center, and an update regarding other 708 Boards in the area.

**Unfinished Business:** none

**New Business:**

Challenge Funding Request from Ecker Center for Behavioral Health: Ms. Sirchia moved to consider the Challenge Funding Request from Ecker Center for Behavioral Health in the amount of \$25,000 and Ms. Biesiadecki seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The Board agreed that the program is important and needed very badly, but the amount of Hanover Township residents that would go through the program in a year is unknown. Ms. Biesiadecki also raised the concern of many items in the budget were consumables, which the Board historically does not fund. Ms. Biesiadecki moved to amend the motion to the amount of \$12,500. A roll call occurred and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes  
Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

Chairperson Cruthers than called for a roll call vote to approve the Challenge Funding Request from Ecker Center Behavioral Health in the amount of \$12,500. A roll call occurred and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes  
Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

Challenge Funding Request from Partners for Our Communities: Ms. Sirchia moved to consider the Challenge Funding Request from Partners in our Communities in the amount of \$6,400 and Ms. Rahim seconded. Discussion ensued. A roll call occurred and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes

Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

Discussion of Community Needs Assessment: Manager Teachout informed the Board that FY 22 is the year the Board needs to conduct a Needs Assessment to inform their Strategic Plan, as it is also the last year of the three year strategic plan. Manager Teachout shared that she had been in contact with the Northern Illinois University Center for Governmental Studies and also had not expected the expense in the budget. The Board engaged in conversation of what line item a study could be financed. Chairperson Cruthers asked about how much these studies cost and Assistant to the Administrator Kristin Vana shared that it would be under \$20,000.

Officer Elections: Ms. Biesiadecki moved to nominate Ms. Cruthers to the chair. Ms. Sirchia seconded. There being no other nominations, a roll call occurred and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes  
Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Sirchia moved to nominate Ms. Biesiadecki as Vice Chair. Ms. Cruthers seconded the motion. There being no other nominations, a roll occurred and passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes  
Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Cruthers moved to nominate Ms. Sirchia as Secretary and Ms. Biesiadecki seconded. There being no other nominations, a roll call occurred and passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes  
Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

**Executive Session:** Ms. Sirchia moved to go into executive session pursuant to paragraph 2(c)1 (Personnel) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act and Ms. Garvey seconded. A roll call occurred and passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki Yes Ms. Sirchia Yes Ms. Cruthers Yes  
Ms. Garvey Yes Trustee Moinuddin Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes  
Ms. Rahim Yes

Ms. Biesiadecki moved to reconvene the Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Board at 7:35 pm and Ms. Rahim seconded. A roll call occurred and the motion passed.

Ms. Biesiadecki	Yes	Ms. Sirchia	Yes	Ms. Cruthers	Yes
Ms. Garvey	Yes	Trustee Moinuddin	Yes	Mr. Steichmann	Yes
Ms. Rahim	Yes				

**Other Business:** Chairperson Cruthers recognized Trustee Moinuddin because this was his last meeting with the Mental Health Board. Chairperson Cruthers congratulated the Trustee on his election to Tax Assessor and presented him with a plaque recognizing his service to the Mental Health Board. The Board was also reminded that the next Mental Health Board meeting is scheduled for May 25, at 6:30 in Veterans Hall of the Senior Center.

**Adjournment:** There being no other business, Ms. Biesiadecki moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 and Trustee Moinuddin seconded. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Sirchia, Mental Health Board Secretary