

HANOVER TOWNSHIP MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

MINUTES of the MEETING

November 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kristen Cruthers at 6:29 p.m.

Roll Call: Kristen Cruthers, Kathy Biesiadecki, Matthew Steichmann, Deb Sirchia, Faiza Rahim. Also present, Amanda Teachout, Mental Health Board Manager. Not present: Trustee Khaja Moinduddin, Mary Jane Garvey Administrator James Barr.

Approval of the Agenda: Deb Sirchia moved to approve the agenda of the November 18, 2019 meeting and Kathy Biesiadecki seconded. The motion was approved.

Public Comment: None

Presentations:

- A. Ecker Center for Mental Health's Rick Vander Forest presented the capital request in the amount of \$18,806.45 for new flooring throughout the facility and furniture in the lobby. Mr. Vander Forest emphasized that Ecker Center has had the same flooring in the facility for over twenty years and it is beginning to become a safety hazard. He shared that he is asking for half of the cost of the project from the Mental Health Board. Ms. Cruthers asked if there was a back up plan if the board could not provide all the funds. Mr. Vander Forest replied that at this time, there was no plan.
- B. Talat Khan of American Association of Retired Asians presented a challenge request in the amount of \$25,000. She highlighted the southeastern Asian seniors is a highly underserved population and has targeted the work of the agency to serve them. Ms. Biesiadecki asked if transportation was also an issue for the population and Ms. Khan replied that typically these seniors have transportation and have utilized the Dial A Ride service from Aging Services.

Workshop: Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Mental Health Board Funding Hearings:

- A. Hanover Township Senior Center: Tracey Colagrossi presented the FY 21 Service Contract Application for the Home Delivered Meals Program. She explained that the increase in the request is due to an increase of demand. Currently, the funding provides for a counselor 3 days a week and the request would accommodate an additional day. It would also provide funding for some group sessions to decrease wait list time.
- B. Community Crisis Center of Elgin: Lisa Winchel presented the FY 21 Service Contract Application for the Domestic Violence Shelter Program. She also introduced the board to the newly named Executive Director of the Community Crisis Center, LaTonya Walker. She explained that although if the funding is awarded it would be an increase, it is the same amount the Community Crisis Center requested in the past.
- C. PADS of Elgin: Sarah Ponitz presented the FY21 Service Contract and explained that this year, PADS of Elgin is requesting \$25,000 more because of the expansion of their Day Program. PADS of Elgin is now providing case management, an additional meal, and is open additional hours. The additional money would be used to fund this expansion.

- D. Gigi’s Playhouse: Kat Yelle of Gigi’s Playhouse presented about a new program that they are seeking funding for, Community Engagement. Ms. Yelle explained that Gigi’s Playhouse has identified a need among adults with Down Syndrome for recreational activities that take place in the community. They are requesting an increase of \$10,000 to fund this new program.
- E. Boys & Girls Club: Cathy Russell of the Boys & Girls Club presented on the FY 21 Service Contract and the increase in requested funding. Ms. Russell explained the expansion of services into Hanover Township has been great and they are serving more Township residents than ever. She also talked about two new programs they are hoping to kick off in the next year. Increased funding would go to those programs and Township residents
- F. Kenneth Young Center- Ms. Peyton and Ms. Springer represented Kenneth Young Center and the request increase of \$30,468. Ms. Peyton explained the reason for increase is because Kenneth Young Center has been the recipient of a grant that is federally funded and nearing the end. The increased request would cover the program for another year. The program also serves Hanover Township residents that attend Tefft Middle School and Bartlett High School. Ms. Cruthers asked why up to this point Kenneth Young Center has not submitted Purchase of Service Reports for their current funding. Ms. Springer explained that Kenneth Young Center has new leadership and that once that was brought to her attention, she pushed the development person to submit the reports.
- G. Leyden Share Program: Bruce Sewick presented the FY 21 Service Contract and addressed the increase of \$10,000 in funding. He explained that the agency is struggling to be reimbursed for Medicaid clients and has fallen behind. He also talked about increased costs in detoxification and a steady stream of clientele. The Board had no questions.

Approval of September 2019 Financial Statement: Ms. Biesiadecki moved to approve the September 2019 Financial Statement and Ms. Rahim seconded. Ms. Cruthers noted that Easter Seals had overspent in their service contract and asked the question to be investigated. A roll call was held to approve the finances.

Ms. Biesiadecki	Yes	Ms. Sirchia	Yes	Ms. Cruthers	Yes
Ms. Rahim	Yes	Mr. Steichmann	Yes		

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2019: Ms. Rahim moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Steichmann seconded. There was no discussion.

Manager’s Report: The Manager’s Report was presented and reviewed. Manager Teachout highlighted the contract secured for Spanish translation of the Resource Guide, the NAMI meeting to occur in January, and serving as a panelist at the Gigi’s Leadership Conference.

Unfinished Business: Manager Teachout pointed out that the adopted dates for 2021 are included in the Board Packet for reference.

New Business:

A. Capital Funding-Ecker Center for Mental Health: Mr. Steichmann moved to consider the capital request in the amount of \$18,806.45 and Ms. Biesiadecki seconded. Discussion ensued. The Board agreed the project was needed. Ms. Sirchia mentioned that she would have liked to see some estimates for the work requested. The Board agreed. Ms. Biesiadecki moved to consider the request next month when a more itemized list or estimates had been provided and Ms. Rahim seconded. The motion passed.

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

Ms. Rahim Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes

B. Staff Development Request- Children’s Advocacy Center: Ms. Biesiadecki moved to consider the staff development request in the amount of \$2,119.26 and Ms. Sirchia seconded. Discussion ensued. The Board agreed the training was worthwhile. The motion passed.

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

Ms. Rahim Yes Mr. Steichmann Yes

C. Challenge Request: American Association of Retired Asians: Mr. Steichmann moved to consider the challenge request in the amount of \$25,000 and Ms. Biesiadecki seconded. Ms. Rahim noted that she was related to someone on the Board of Directors from the agency and felt the need to abstain from the vote. The Board agreed the agency was doing important work for an underserved population. Ms. Biesiadecki noted that the organization has done a lot of work with a little money. Ms. Cruthers asked if the Board was sure that the numbers listed in the application were Township residents. Manager Teachout shared that she had met with Ms. Khan and explained the geographical boundaries. Ms. Biesiadecki shared that although she believes the agency is doing good work among seniors, she wished there had been a clearer explanation of how the Challenge funding would be used. The Board agreed. Ms. Biesiadecki moved to table the consideration until that information has been obtained and Mr. Steichmann seconded. The motion passed.

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

Ms. Rahim Abstain Mr. Steichmann Yes

D. Site Visit Review: Mr. Steichmann reported on the Site Visit to Ecker Center for Mental Health. He shared that he was impressed at the comprehensive services offered, including the on-site pharmacy. He also stated that he noticed that Ecker Center had been very frugal with their money and their facility was beginning to need updating.

Executive Session: None

Other Business: Manager Teachout asked the Board if they would still like to hear from agencies requesting Challenge Funding even though their Challenge Fund has been exhausted. The Board said yes.

Adjournment: There being no other business, Ms. Biesiadecki moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Steichmann seconded the motion. Motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Sirchia

Mental Health Board Secretary