

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
March 1, 2006**

Chairperson Bonita Caplan called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Bonita Caplan, Ann Hull, Barbara Saltzman, Mieko Smith, Mary Warr  
**Absent:** J. Bazyk / **Other Governors Present:** R. Carson, L. D. Lenkoski, E. Thoms, J. Waller

**Board Staff:** William M. Denihan, Chief Executive Officer, Valeria Harper-Bledsoe, Chief Operating Officer; Kathryn Burns, M.D., Chief Clinical Officer; Rose Fini, Director of Risk Management; Scott Osiecki, Director of External Affairs; Tami Fischer, Director of Human Resources; Myra Henderson, Recovery/Employment Specialist; Kathleen LoPresti, Performance Improvement Specialist/HIPAA Privacy Officer

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - The minutes of February 8, 2006, were approved as written.

2. **PROPOSED COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Chair honored Dr. Lenkoski's request to suggest potential agenda items for the Planning, Program & Oversight (PPO) Committee. The two issues proposed for consideration were to:

- a) consider a plan or strategy for the CCCMHB if Medicaid funding is adversely affected.
- b) consider fostering a system-wide training for clergy, pediatricians, etc.

Dr. Burns noted that an update on a training initiative for pediatricians is scheduled for a future PPO committee meeting. Committee members concurred that both issues should be forwarded to the PPO Committee.

[Dr. L. Douglas Lenkoski left the meeting.]

3. **GALA EVENT**

Regarding the Gala Event scheduled for Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Chair informed those present that the featured speaker, Terry Bradshaw, backed out of his commitment two days prior on 2/27/06 citing his recent health condition after back surgery as his reason. It was noted that the LNE Consulting Group called all ticket holders to inform them of Mr. Bradshaw's decision and to confirm that the Gala Event will proceed. The Board had a substitute--Mr. Howie Long; however, within the hour, Mr. Long declined his offer to substitute for Mr. Bradshaw due to a schedule conflict.

Discussion followed on options available and next steps. Consideration was given to ask Dick Ambrose, a former Cleveland Brown scheduled to introduce Mr. Bradshaw, to speak at the Gala Event. Mr. Denihan noted that ideas suggested would be taken under advisement by CCCMHB staff to make alternative arrangements for the program.

4. **REVIEW OF NEW BOARD MEMBER APPLICATIONS**

Ms. Hull and Ms. Warr have interviewed one prospective applicant to date and have appointments with two other candidates this afternoon. Prospective candidates are being informed about the time commitment expected of new Board members. The intent is to have the recommended candidate information available for the March General Meeting.

Ms. Caplan noted that an Executive Session will be needed at the March General Meeting to discuss proposed recommendations from M. Warr and A. Hull before voting to send recommendations to the appropriate appointing authorities.

5. **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR PEER SUPPORT/PEER PROVIDED SERVICES**

Ms. Myra Henderson, Recovery and Employment Specialist, highlighted background information regarding the RFP for Peer Support/Peer Provided Services. It was noted that research indicates multiple benefits of employment for people with severe and persistent mental illness, for society, and for the benefit of peer-provided services to the consumers who receive these services and to the peer provider.

[Dr. Carson left the meeting.]

**5. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR PEER SUPPORT/PEER PROVIDED SERVICES – (Cont'd)**

A Peer Specialist is an employee who has experienced serious and persistent mental illness and who provides direct services, including social and emotional support, coupled with support in activities of daily living. A Peer Specialist promotes recovery through training, role-modeling and sharing experiences, and facilitates recovery by providing hope, encouragement, self-determination, validation, and connection to the community.

The CCCMHB would like to allocate through a RFP process \$350,000. The designated funding will be awarded to one or multiple contracted agencies who meet the criteria identified within the RFP up to the available funding level of \$350,000.

**ACTION:** The Executive Committee concurred that the recommendation to release the RFP for Peer Provided Services to the full Board for approval.

**6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

- The Chair invited Executive Committee members and other interested Board members to join a field trip on Tuesday, March 7, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. to look at possible sites for an administrative building and East Side Crisis Shelter.
- Mr. Waller noted his concern about individuals being discharged from prison who may not understand the importance of taking their medication; he suggested providing consumers a monetary incentive to help them take their meds and cut down on recidivism. Ms. Caplan and Dr. Smith noted their opposition to this suggestion. Dr. Smith reiterated her disapproval of the concept. Dr. Burns noted that efforts are underway to improve discharge planning and linkage for persons leaving prison so that they do have medication and the appropriate link to community services.
- Ms. Warr inquired about the outcome of an agency's audit regarding a financial concern. Mr. Denihan reported that the audit referenced was one which looked at an agency around its utilization of one-time funds. The result of the review was a clean audit showing no misuse of funds; the agency is solvent. The agency accepted the responsibility of its misstep. Mr. Denihan noted that multiple meetings were held in-house with this agency as well as on-site. The one-time funding recently approved for this agency will allow them to finish the project undertaken two years ago.

Ms. Warr was pleased to hear the good outcome; however, she asked about the process in the future for informing Board members about problem resolutions. Ms. Caplan noted that this issue should have been brought back to the Board members to close the loop.

[Mieko Smith arrived at the meeting.]

- Follow-Up Discussion Regarding Clergy Breakfast – Discussion followed on which Board of Governors' Committee should follow-up on Clergy Breakfast next steps. Dr. Smith suggested appointing a task force to plan for the implementation of community education for clergy members pediatricians, etc. Dr. Smith agreed that this issue can be addressed at the next Planning, Program & Oversight Committee.

***There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.***

***Submitted by: Carol Krajewski, Executive Specialist to the Board of Governors***

***Approved by: Bonita W. Caplan, CCCMHB Chairperson***