

NORTHERN LAKES COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

CONSUMER ADVOCACY COUNCIL MINUTES

DATE: April 13, 2011
TIME: 1:30 p.m.
PLACE: Northern Lakes Community Mental Health
(105 Hall Street, Traverse City)

PRESENT: DL, CP, JN, KS, PJ, JM, CR, FT and aide, DT.

GUESTS: LR and TH.

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

KS welcomed those in attendance. Introductions were completed. Carolyn read the vision and mission.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT/ADVOCACY STORIES

Hold for end of meeting.

III. ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2011

JM requested a change under item IV, third line replace CMH with mental health; KS requested omitting item #3 from the 3/9/11 minutes and move up to after presentation on Medicare for discussion. CR made the motion, supported by PJ to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2011 meeting with JM correction and omitting #3.

IV. PRESENTATION ON MEDICARE BY LYNN ROSS

KS introduced Lynn Ross of United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan who will be speaking about Medicare and Medicaid and noted that she has presented to the council previously. She identified that they have been awarded a Social Security grant to provide benefits counseling for people who are receiving social security disability or social security income. Lynn works one on one with folks who are considering going back to work so they know what will happen when they return to work. Lynn provided handouts on the following material and explained differences between Medicare and Medicaid identifying eligibility and the three parts to Medicare: Powerpoint presentation on Medicare Savings Program; Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Choosing a Plan); Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Medicare Part D) for Dual Eligible People; Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Medicare Part D) Extra Help for people who are not Dual Eligible; Medicare or Medicaid – SSDI-Medicare or SSI – Medicaid; Freedom to Work Medicaid for SSDI Beneficiaries – 2011 Fact Sheet on Work Incentives; Freedom to Work Medicaid for SSI Beneficiaries – 2011 Fact Sheet on Work Incentives; Medicare & You – 2011; and Important Numbers by MMAP. Lynn responded to questions.

V. CALLING MICHIGAN PROTECTION & ADVOCACY

KS identified concern about consumers being able to call Michigan Protection & Advocacy from our Traverse City Office. She related previous discussion. The issue was resolved with a change to the telephone system.

VI. MICHIGAN PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SURVEYS

KS shared surveys with members and encouraged everyone to complete.

VII. FREEDOM TO WORK AMENDMENT

KS reported that she attended a meeting a week ago identifying they are trying to sort out the premium issue and get this pushed back to the legislature to get it approved.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION ISSUE IN TRAVERSE CITY

JN provided an update on the status of individuals receiving their bus passes for disability. Individuals who have a disability can request a discount for their fare and would need to follow a specific process to receive. Members shared concerns about individuals loitering in public buildings.

IX. PRESENTATION ON NLCMH WEBSITE

Members had expressed a need to limit the paper they are receiving and for individuals who can not attend the meeting could get information on the NLCMH website. Information that is available on the website is as follows: brochure, conference guidelines, presentations, meeting schedule, by-laws, membership vacancies, meeting agendas and handouts and minutes. Material would be scanned after each meeting to be placed on the website. In order to reduce paperwork members decided to have the packets e-mailed and would try for the next meeting. Extra copies of the material would be available at the meeting location.

X. ARTICLES IN GRAND RAPIDS PRESS

KS referenced mental health articles on March 20.

XI. MEETING DATE FOR MAY

The May meeting had been scheduled on May 11 for the Cadillac Office. Due to the conflict with the Walk A Mile Rally alternate dates were discussed. The meeting will be held on May 12 to be held at Club Cadillac at 1:30 p.m. Transportation will be shared.

XII. CAC ASSESSMENT

Not discussed.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

Update on Budget – Not discussed.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Saturday, April 16 Zero Tolerance for Child Abuse – flyer was distributed.

Consumer Opportunities – Noted April 27 Conference scheduled for Ludington was postponed. Other Events Scheduled: May 24 Consumer Mini-Conference. State Consumer Conference – July 28 – bring information to the May meeting. Recovery celebration will be on September 20. Art of Recovery Show – November 2.

XV. CURRENT LITERATURE, ARTICLES AND MOVIES

PJ suggested the book "Mindsight" by Daniel Siegel.

JN referenced the book "Lincoln's Melancholy" by Joshua Wolf Shank. A new movie is coming out about his assassination.

XVI. AGENDA PLANNING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 12 at Club Cadillac. Agenda topics: Club Cadillac presentation.

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Referenced volunteer presentation in Cadillac.

XVIII. MEETING EVALUATION/ADJOURN

None.

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Lavender, Recording Secretary