



Administrative Office, 105 Hall Street, Suite A, Traverse City, MI 49684

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2022

12:00 PM

1. ATTENDANCE:

Leelanau Governmental Center 8527 E Government Center Dr, Suttons Bay, MI and remote virtual meeting.

Rose Denny called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: Tony Lentych, Dan Dekorse, Penny Morris, Ben Townsend, Rose Denny, Barb Selesky, Ty Wessell, Al Cambridge, Lynn Pope, Greg McMorrow, Mary Marois, Tom Bratton, Kate Dahlstrom

Virtual : Angela Griffis, Pam Babcock

Absent: Sherry Powers – advance notice

Others Present: Joanie Blamer, Interim Chief Executive Officer; Lauri Fischer, Chief Financial Officer; Matt Leiter, Director of Human Resources; Tracy Andrews, Director of Integrated and Managed Health Services; Brian Newcomb, Director of Recipient Rights; Heather Sleight, Administrative Specialist; Deb Lavender, Executive Secretary; Stacy Maiville, Executive Secretary; Jeremiah Williams, Information Technology Supervisor; Carrie Gray, Chief Population Officer; Dan Mauk, Chief Information Officer; Harold Meeuwes, Building/Grounds Coordinator; Doug Nielson, Maintenance Worker

Virtual –Ann Ketchum, Programmer Analyst II; Jessica Williams, Performance Improvement Specialist; Kari Barker, QI Compliance Director; Deb Freed, Public Relations; Aimee Horton Johnson, Office Administrator; Brie Molaison, Customer Service Specialist; Aaron Fader, Human Resource Specialist; Alyssa Hansen, Human Resources Supervisor; Chris Biggar, Finance Manager; Dean Baldwin, Network Administrator; Jessica Whetstone, Jail Diversion Clinical Specialist; Jennifer Wiesnewski, RN – Psychiatric Services; Kasi Morse, Customer Service Provider; Kellee Hoag, Administrative Specialist – Finance; Lisa Jones, Recipient Rights Advisor; Melissa Bentgen, Accounts Payable Team Lead; Michelle Dosch, Compliance Secretary; Amy Kotulski, Clubhouse Director; Michelle Michalski, Human Resources Specialist; Sheryl Dey, OPT/ACT Operations Manager; Erika Solomonson, Child and Family Manager; Hilary Rappuhn, Project Coordinator; Jan Pytlowany, Customer Service Provider; Amy McPhail, RN – Psychiatric Services; Bobbi Hudson, Transcriptionist; Tiffany Fewins, Administrative Assistant; April Weinrick, Home Supervisor

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Betsy Z –Traverse House Club member. We have an open house coming up – August 31st at 11am. Every year we do a parking fund raiser for the Cherry Festival. This year we raised \$18735, which goes to our member fund. We work with feeding America, any member needs among other things.

Michael L – been with club since 2016. Happy to be a part of the program. Looking forward to conference coming up in a month. No restrictions on amount of clubhouse attendees at once. Just got a YMCA membership with some of the money raised from the Cherry Festival fundraiser.

Trevor and Deb C – We are Leelanau County residents. Trevor’s supported independence is 100 percent based on NLCMH. I have been reading very uncomfortable news about the board and NLCMH and it seems to be centered around jails and psychiatric services. There is so much more than that matters that CMH does. It has changed Trevor’s life, his roommate’s life and so many others. So, please do not forget that as you work through whatever issues that need to be solved or improved. It is a program that we cannot be without in my opinion. There is no way that any organization can, in 12 months, come up with a replacement that is useful. I desperately need to hear solutions and board member commitment to creating a positive environment.

Justin Reed – Traverse House clubhouse member. There have been questions about the jail. Handed out the Michigan Medicaid manual in response to what can be covered as far as financials that can go into the jail services. Other than Medicaid, there are no other funding sources (other than grants). When I go to club house, state conferences, or anything that has to do with the realm of mental health, I learn a lot. I take pride in going to the conferences and with what I bring back to share with my colleagues. I have learned a lot about myself and my community. I advocate strongly for what I believe is right. Not everything is perfect. There is no magic switch nor a simple answer. At the end of the day, we are all human and we want the same thing. There are some things that are tough, but we are a state funded public program, so we have to abide by the rules. Thank you for your time.

3. OPPORTUNITIES FROM THE SWOT:

It was decided that this discussion could not be had due to the receipt of the letter from the NMRE offering help to NLCMH, so it was decided that other important upcoming opportunities would be discussed. The NLCMH Crisis Welcoming Center and the Grand Traverse Center for Mental Wellness.

Discussion was had regarding a letter that was received from the NMRE offering help to NLCMHA and the distribution of said letter to board members. It was suggested by Ty Wessel to have that letter added to the board agenda.

Kate Dahlstrom spoke about the community driven business plan Grand Traverse Center for Mental Wellness, a possible 15,000 square foot center that would incorporate crisis, crisis stabilization and crisis residential services. They have received several grants to fund the planning phase of the project and have hired TBD Solutions as the project director. (Motion changed 9/15/22).

Joanie spoke about the timeline of the grant funding for the Grand Traverse Center for Mental Wellness as well as the Crisis welcoming Center (located in the Hall Street location).

Lauri Fisher spoke about the plans for the new Technilodge that she is hoping to have built in Cadillac at the Seneca Place location. This is a 16 unit “smart” complex that will allow someone who requires 24-hour care to live independently. However, help can be dispatched immediately if needed as they are electronically dialed in to a help center. The board would like to see more information on this project.

4. BOARD GOVERNANCE

No discussion on this

5. AGENDA PLANNING OPTIONS:

September 15, 2022 meeting location at Kirtland Community College-

It has been decided at this time that the retreat (scheduled for September 9th) will be postponed until a later date.

6. OTHER/ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn by Ty Wessel

Seconded by Rose Denny

Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Sleight,

Administrative Specialist