

**Observer Report**

**Mental Health Board**

**Date: April 11, 2019**

**Observer:** Pat Blumen

**Meeting Began:** 7:03PM

**Meeting Ended:** 8:13PM

**Members Present:** Jessica Sales – Chair, Irene Zaya, Karin Ruetzel, Sandi Johnson, Gnathan Carpenter, Rebecca Feiler at 7:14PM and Jackie Haines at 7:26PM.

**Staff Present:** Jessica Wingader

**Audience:** Agency Representatives

Minutes of February meeting approved by mistake, meant to be March.

Announcement from Chair Sales: MHB Mbr. Heather Perkins has taken a job with the City Health Department and has resigned. Thus, there are 2 vacancies.

No Speakers available for tonight's meeting.

Two speakers will be coming to the May Meeting: Mr. Perkins to talk about Stress and Kimberly Richardson from the City.

Lengthy discussion of Zoom Grant Application Form: MHB priorities will be included with a question about how the applicant addresses the priority(ies). Jessica Wingader to determine procedure if the applicant is not qualified (e.g., not a 501-C3). Discussed need to begin process sooner, so that applicants who are not qualified do not have to continue through the lengthy burden of the application process. Calendar to be proposed after consultation with the City by Jessica Wingader.

**Liaison Report:**

Sandi reported on the Harbor. They provided 11 days of care to one Evanston resident. Saw the need for Outreach at non-traditional sites and implemented the process to contact them. Will visit at end of month.

Sandi reported on Child Care Network of Evanston, which has 15 staff and is in the process of rebuilding both Staff and program as well as board. MHB pay for scholarships for 10 children; also supporting a cultural Coach for refugee families. They learned the Muslim fathers do not approve of another woman coming into their home to provide services.

Noted a gap in services in that Erie has no mental health services for children under the age of 6.

Agencies reassigned due to board changes:

CASA: Sandi

Peer: Gnathan

Metropolitan: Jessica

NSSC: Irene

**Chair Report:**

Child and Adolescent Suicide Study: Between 2007 and 2015 rates of hospital admission for suicide attempts has doubled with the average age of 13; there is a shortage of child psychiatrists; there were 3 publicized suicides at ETHS. 5/1 FAM speaker on Suicide at New Trier.

Evanston Local Area Network is resurrecting to provide wraparound services for families, especially the homeless; Anonymous case is reviewed at once/mo. Mtg. to see how agencies can better collaborate to address problems.

Karen and Sandi presented slate for officers:  
Jessica will remain Chair; Becky will be Vice-Chair

Mention of the Family Focus building sale. Several agencies want to buy and maintain.

**Staff Report:**

Jessica Wingader said there is a review of Social Services based on outcomes both internal and external as well look at equity. Kim Richardson will be at the next mtg. as MHB is considered a partner in the evolving process. Questions are: how city quantifies the work; how is information assessed; and how can staff & funding have greater impact. Mentioned that Pat Effiom is on a medical leave of absence. City services also being reviewed. There will be meetings with external providers in May and June. City goals do not include health, but is included under equity.